62a 1946

Annapolis

Midshipmen See Navy Go Down

Some of the midshipmen caught as they marched into Baltimore Municipal Stadium where they saw the Tars bow to Duke, 21-6, Saturday, thus losing their second major gridiron contest. Arrow points to Wesley A. Brown of Washington. All other midshipmen at the Naval Academy in Annapolis are white.
(AFRO Photo by Henderson)

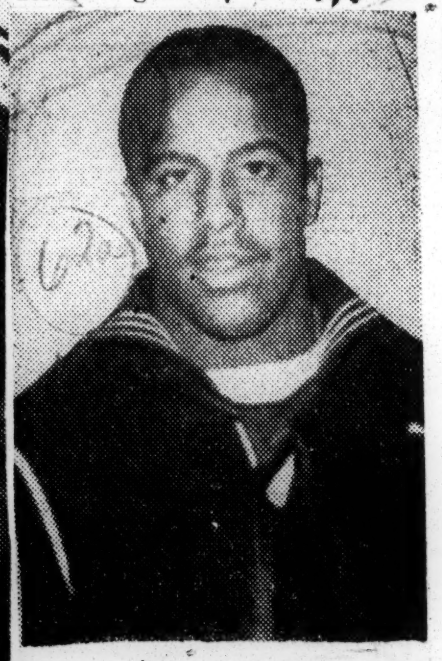
Negro completes a whole year at Annapolis

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Wesley A. Brown, of New York, became the first Negro to complete a successful year at Annapolis Naval Academy recently when he passed all of his subjects with high marks.

Midshipman Brown entered the academy a year ago as an appointee of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., and as the first Negro officer candidate in 9 years.

He is the second Negro to remain at the school for a whole year. The other was Henry E. Baker, Jr., who remained from September, 1874 to November, 1875, and then was dismissed.

Preceding Brown at the school was George J. Trivers, who entered in July, 1937, and resigned after 18 days, because of poor health. Preceding Trivers by a year was James Lee Johnson of Washington, who was admitted with a high scholastic record but who resigned after four months. Johnson was the first to enter the academy since 1874. Three other Negroes were candidates before him but all of them were separated for deficient grades.



BUDDY YOUNG
.. Refuses Annapolis Appointment

Buddy Young Rejects Navy Appointment

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Fleet-footed Buddy Young, the "Mighty Mite" of the collegiate pigskin world, revealed upon his discharge from the Navy this week that he has rejected an appointment, tendered by Congressman William Dawson, (D), Illinois, to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

Had he accepted the appointment, Young would have won the distinction of being the first top ranking Negro athlete in the country to wear the "Navy Blue" at Annapolis, and in all probability the first to compete in athletics there.

CONSIDERED GREAT FOOTBALL PLAYER

The sensational little football player, who won his collegiate spurs at the University of Illinois, said he declined to accept because he prefers to continue his education as a civilian.

During the past season, he played with the Fleet City Bluejackets on the West Coast and was regarded in many quarters as the greatest football player on any service team in the nation.

The willingness on the part of authorities at the Naval Academy to accept Young has been regarded as the dawn of a "new day" there and friends of the young speed-merchant were hoping that he would accept the appointment. His decision to turn it down was a disappointment to many of his faithful followers.

UNDECIDED ON SCHOOL

Meantime, there is considerable speculation as to where he will resume his college career. Because of his football ability, he has received flattering offers from many schools. In Los Angeles, for instance, football followers of UCLA have been trying to influence him to join the Bruin clan, rather than return to Illinois.

Young, apparently, has yet to decide just where he will go to school.

Annapolis Shenanigans

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Walter W. Rollins, chief steward at the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, is on trial on charges of adultery involving a white woman, lascivious conduct and theft of liquor. Sat. 7-6-46

A great deal is being made over the fact that the woman involved is white, she being Mrs. Margaret A. Sima, wife of an Academy bandsman who was recently given a suspended bad conduct discharge on charges of having taken his wife to Rollins's quarters, drinking and gambling.

Nothing in the testimony indicates that the woman was forced to come to Rollins's room or that, against her will, she suffered any indignities while there.

The whole trial simmers down to a situation in which the white supremacy boys at Annapolis are putting a colored man on trial on charges (1) of having a white woman's photograph in his room and (2) of having entertained her there.

But that is not what the charges say. The main charge is adultery. If all of the white officers and seamen in the Navy who are guilty of adultery and fornication were court-martialed, our Navy would need a lot of replacements.

A second point to note is that some of the key witnesses against Rollins are some colored associates who, voluntarily or otherwise, reported that they saw him with the white woman in his room, the seeing being done through a hole in the wall.

Let's assume, for the sake of argument, that Rollins and Mrs. Sima were intimate as charged. Only a low-type individual would put his eye to a hole to witness this act and only a still lower type would talk about it in public.

One of the witnesses is reported to have said that Rollins thought himself above colored Americans. This was his apparent justification for mixing up in a sexual mess.

That kind of excuse does not hold water.

A third angle of the Rollins case has to do with the use of petty officers and enlisted Navy men to wait on naval officers and their guests.

To us, it seems perfectly legal and proper that a petty officer or an enlisted man should serve the regular meals to any naval officer as part of his regular duties. But why should taxpayers be asked to provide such officers with servants who wait on them and their guests at any hour of the day or night in clubs serving meals, liquor, etc.?

How a democratic nation can justify putting seamen in an officers' liquor joint is more than we can understand.

No matter how long it has been going on, it is unjustifiable, illegal and far more reprehensible than anything Rollins has done, according to his worse witnesses.

FLIMSY SEX ORGY TESTIMONY AGAINST NEGRO AND BLOND STUDIED BY NAVAL INQUIRY

The Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla.

Sat. 7. 6. 46

Seven-Man Court Martial Listens to Fantastic Tales of Perversion

VENTILATOR PEEP-HOLE DISCLOSURES DOUBTED

ANNAPOLIC, Md., July — On flimsy evidence the United States Navy is seeking to convict Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, a vetetran of 27 years of service, of acts of perversion and brand Mrs. Margaret A. Sims, a white woman, as an adultress and a party to his acts of perversion.

A seven-officer court-martial, which heard the case, also was asked to convict Rollins on charges of theft or embezzlement of liquor from the North Severn officers' club, where he was assigned to duty, of gambling, of conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and of drinking in his quarters in violation of naval orders. Sat. 7-6-46

The prosecution summed up its case against Rollins last Tuesday. Lieutenant Commander William L. P. Burke, co-judge advocate, sought to have newspaper men excluded while he analyzed for the court the evidence against Rollins on the morals charges. Evelyn Baker Richman, a New York City lawyer and the first woman to appear as defense counsel at a navy general court, would not consent to the court going into a closed session.

On the charge of scandalous conduct there were two specifications both alleging the same offense on two different dates, August 15 and September 15, last.

Commander Burke disconted the denial of Mrs. Sima, the wife of Musician First Class William R. Sima, Jr., a naval academy band saxophonist, that she was never alone in Rollin's quarters on the ground that she was an alleged accomplice. Sat 7-6-46

He emphasized the testimony of Curtis Carter, a former steward's mate at the North Severn officers' club, that Mrs. Sima had inquired for Rollins after midnight on August 15, after all the guests had left the club.

Reading excerpts from Carter's testimony, Commander Burke told the court that Carter had peeped through a ventilator hole into Chief Rollin's basement room at the club and had seen Mrs. Sima lying on a couch clad in only her slip.

Commander Burke quoted Carter's testimony describing her as having her legs stretched open with her hands behind her head and Rollins stooping over her.

Commander Burke also read Carter's testimony to the effect that Rollin's face was turned down towards Mrs. Sims's thighs, but he did not see Rollins doing any thing; that Rollin's head was right beside her thighs, but he (Carter) could not see exactly what he was doing. Carter was quoted as saying that Rollins remained in this position for about a minute also peeped at the couple.

Against this damaging testimony of a messman, who admitted he was not on friendly terms with the chief steward, the defense continued that it was impossible to have peered through the small hole into Rollin room and seen the things Carter claims h he saw. The court it self visited Rollin's quarters and peered through the ventilator hole. Sat 7-6-46

From the alleged opportunity to commit adultery and an alleged adulterous disposition on the part of Mrs. Sim Sims evidence by frequent visits to Rollin quarters, the prosecution rested its charge of adultery against Rollins.

Commander Burke stressed that Mrs. Sim had been in Rollins' quarters, that she admitted she had sent him a postcard, that she had been to his quarters in company with others, that she gave him a photograph of herself with the permission of her husband, that Rollins had referred to her as his "blond" that she had twice asked for Rollin.

Other links in the chain of circumstantial evidence by which the prosecution hoped to prove its charge of adultery were that some time in August, around 11 o'clock at night, the door to Rollin's quarters opened and Rollins and a woman were seen walking down the hall both attired in bath robes, that Rollins went swimming with a "blond," and that that two women's bathing suits were found in Rollin's quarters when the surprise inspection was made of his quarters and club liquor was found.

The other two links in this circumstantial chain which the prosecution sought to forge on the adultery charge was that the relationship between Rollins and Mrs. Sims was shown to be of a highly sociable nature and that he had put his head between her thighs while she was alone in his quarters in her slip. Sat 7-6-46

Burke relied mainly on the testimony of Mrs. Agnes Thompson Annapolis hair dresses, as proof that Rollin gambled and drank in his quarters contrary to nave orders.

62a 1946 Annapolis (Rollins's trial)

Academy Steward Denies Interracial Socializing

The Afro-American Baltimore Md.

BALTIMORE

Despite admissions that he violated regulations by allowing liquor to be drunk in his quarters, denials that he danced with either of the three white women present was made by Chief Steward's Mate Walter W. Rollins, 43, during a summary court-martial at the United States Naval Academy on Thursday.

A veteran of 23 years' service and father of three children, Rollins made the admissions and denials during the trial of William R. Sima, Jr., musician 1 c, one of his guests during an all night party on February 9.

Sima, who is accused of violating the academy rules and regulations governing drinking and gambling, a member of the academy band, he is the son of Lieut. William R. Sima, Sr., director of the academy band.

Friendship Questioned

Although Sima, an enlisted man, is accused of having illegally taken his wife, Mrs. William R. Sima, Jr., into Rollins' quarters, to have drunk intoxicating liquor and have gambled for money with cards, emphasis seems to be placed upon whether or not Rollins was overly friendly or danced with any of the white women who were guests at the party.

Rollins, who was born on May 7, 1902, at Saint Croix, Virgin Islands, entered the Navy on May 22, 1920. Educated in the public schools of his native home and New York City, he served in Trinidad, B.W.I. before assignment at the Naval Academy on July 27, 1942.

He is married to Mrs. Volberg Rollins of 377 Edgecombe Ave., and the father of three children, Gloria Rollins, Walter Jr., and Valdemar, a student at Columbia University.

Faces Court Martial

The chief steward's mate is being detained aboard the U.S.S. Rene Mercedes pending a possible general court martial on charges involving "misconduct and irregularities in the performance of his duties" as head of the galley at the North Severn Officers' Club.

Action will depend upon the decision of the judge advocate general in Washington who is reviewing data obtained during an investigation.

A witness at the trial which now only involves Young Sima, a worker, stated that Rollins had ordered him to bring a half case of whiskey from a storeroom to the chief steward mate's quarters. Later in compliance with an earlier instruction from a supervisor, he took the license numbers of cars of all of Rollins's guests.

Mrs. Rebecca T. Sima, wife of Lt. Sima, who also faces possible general court marital charges, denied that Rollins had ever addressed her as "darling" or had offered to buy her or her daughter-in-law nylon stockings as gifts. The woman admitted, however, that she had played penny ante with Rollins on several occasions, along with her husband and son at her home. She admitted that she and other members of the family exchanged Christmas cards with Rollins and that her son had given him liquor and ties as presents.

Never Alone With Women

The chief steward's mate who served at San Point, Seattle, Washington, New York City, and Trinidad before going to the Naval Academy, denied that he had ever been alone in his quarters with any of the women.

At the hearings, he appeared in full uniform bearing six gold hash-marks on the left sleeve representing 24 years of service with good conduct. He is also the holder of a good conduct medal.

Washington to Give Final Decision in Rollins Case

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-13-46

ANNAPOLIS — Final decision and penalty, if any, in the Navy's court martial of Chief Steward's Mate Walter W. Rollins here at the U.S. Naval Academy, now rests with the office of the Secretary of the Navy in Washington.

The seven-officer general court-martial board which heard the 21-day trial found Rollins innocent only on two of the six charges against him.

The charges on which the board announced his guilt was not proved were:

Embezzlement of $267 worth of alcoholic beverages, between April 30, 1944, and Feb. 12, 1946, from the Academy's North Severn Officers' Club where he was employed and;

Engaging in unnatural sex practices with Mrs. Margaret A. Sima, white wife of an Academy bandsman on Aug. 15 and Sept. 15, 1945.

Sustain Other Charges

The board failed to announce its verdict on the other charges of theft of the $267 worth of alcoholic beverages, gambling, bad conduct and committing adultery with Mrs. Sima.

However, the board did announce that some of the specifications in three of the latter charges had not been proved. For example:

He was charged with gambling in his quarters at the club on Sept. 1 and 3 in 1945 and on Feb. 10, 1946. The board announced his innocence on the Sept. dates.

Partial Innocence Proved

Rollins was also accused in the bad conduct charge of having alcoholic beverages in his possession and entertaining visitors in his quarters on seven various dates.

The board stated that this charge had not been proved on five of the named occasions.

The adultery charge listed Rollins as having been intimate with Mrs. Sima on Aug. 15 and Sept. 15 of 1945. The board's findings were that the offense had not been proved to have occurred on Sept. 15.

Admiral Talks for Rollins as Court-Martial Concludes

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-29-46

ANNAPOLIS. — Vice Admiral Arthur W. Radford, USN, deputy chief, Naval operations for air, appeared on behalf of Chief Steward's Mate Walter W. Rollins here at the U.S. Naval Academy Friday, as Navy prosecutors and defense counsels alike closed their cases in his 14-day-old court-martial.

The court-martial will resume on Tuesday when the prosecutors and the defense will present their arguments before the seven-officer court-martial board sitting in the case.

Rollins is accused of embezzling and stealing $267 worth of alcoholic beverages from the academy's North Severn Officers' Club; gambling and bad conduct in his basement quarters there, and adultery and lascivious sex practices with a white woman.

Gives Good Character

Vice Admiral Radford, under whom Rollins had previously served as steward in Seattle and Trinidad, appeared as a character witsess for the accused man.

Similar despositions were presented by the defense from two other high Naval officers, Rear Admirals John R. Beardall, former superintendent of the Academy, and Samuel B. Ginder, under whom Rollins also served at one time in Trinidad.

John H. H. Pool, senior civil engineer in the Academy's public works offire, was called by the defense to present diagrams he had drawn based on trigonometrical calculations.

Could Not Be Seen

Their purpose was to show that anyone peeping into Rollins's quarters through a hole in the wall around a ventilator pipe could not se ewithin five feet of the floor.

Navy prosecutors had previously presented witnesses in conjunction with the morals charges against Rollins, who said they had looked through this hole and observed him with a white woman.

Pool said he had based his calculations on an estimate of how large the peep-hole was, and not by the hole itself which has long been repaired.

Rollins Not Called

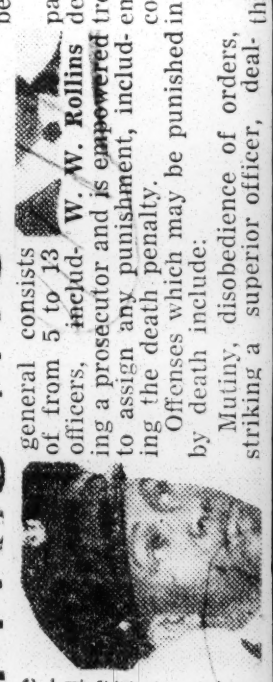
Rollins did not testify in his own defense.

While a prosecution witness had said he had seen Rollins and a white woman attired in bathrobes in the corridor near the accused man's quarters, a defense witness, Chief Boatswain Mate Chester W. Cartin, denied that he had found any among Rollins's clothing.

Cartin said he was master-at-arms of the Academys' station ship, Reina Mercedes, to which Rollins was attached.

How Navy Tries Men

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. by Max Johnson Sat. 7-6-46



W. W. Rollins is empowered to those general consists of from 5 to 13 officers, including a prosecutor and is empowered to assign any punishment, including the death penalty.

Offenses which may be punished by death include:

Mutiny, disobedience of orders, desertion in time of war, sleeping on watch, leaving station and duty before being regularly relieved;

Injuring a naval vessel or any part of her equipment, unlawful destruction of public property, treacherously yielding to an enemy when engaged in battle, cowardice in battle, deserting duty in the U.S. Navy.

They are general, summary and deck. The deck court-martial can assign the same punishments as a summary court-martial, except that no service discharge may be given or confinement or forfeiture of pay for a longer period than 20 days.

Rollins affords an interesting contrast in proceedings and atmosphere to those found in a civilian criminal court. There are three types of U.S. courts-martial in Naval Academy in Annapolis Chief Steward's Mate Walter W. Rollins affords an interesting contrast in proceedings and atmos-

The court-martial at the

Punishment Limited

The summary court-martial has three officer members and one of-

This court consists of one officer and is convened by the commanding officer when he thinks the offense demands a punishment more severe than he is authorized to assign.

Rollins Can Get Limit

Rollins is being tried before a general court-martial board of seven officers and two Navy prosecutors.

His alleged offenses of theft, embezzlement, gambling, bad conduct, adultery and abnormal sex relations with a white woman, if proved by the prosecutors, may bring whatever punishment the court-martial board may decide.

In criminal courts, the judge is addressed by arguing attorneys as, "Your Honor."

Navy court-martial boards have a senior member who speaks for the others on the board. He is addressed as, "Mr. President," and often the courtesy, "Sir," is added.

Navy Trial Not Exactly 'Legal'

Only attorney members of the bar or defendants themselves are permitted to argue in civilian criminal courts. The judges are lawyers and members of the bar.

In the case of Rollins, none of the seven-officer court-martial board is a lawyer and only one of the Navy prosecutors is an attorney.

His defense counsel consists of a white civilian woman lawyer from New York and a retired Navy captain who is practicing attorney in New York and Washington.

Difference in Objections

When one attorney objects to a form of questioning or procedure used by another in our civilian courts, the judge usually gives an immediate ruling.

Much time has been consumed during the trial of Rollins because the court-martial board uses another system.

If an objection is made—and they come frequently—the board hears both sides of the argument then clears the court of everyone else and decides what to do.

These average about 20 minutes of deliberation. The shortest I have timed during Rollins trial has been eight minutes.

Use of References

Naval courts and boards and books on Navy laws and procedures are referred to frequently by board members and prosecutors alike during the Rollins case.

In our civilian courts reference to law books would be either to record of rulings on previous similar cases or to recognized criminal law authorities.

It has been noted by this writer that there is just a bit more dignity observed by participants in the current court-martial than usually found in some of the criminal courts.

Handling of Witnesses

Witnesses are sworn in there by placing their left hands on a Bible, raising their right and answering, "I do," when asked whether they swear to tell the truth.

In criminal courts in Baltimore, no Bible is used. The witness merely raises his right hand when taking the oath.

Navy procedure after a witness testifies requires the court-martial board president to ask if he has anything else not asked that he would like to add, in view of his oath to tell all he knows about the case in question.

Then the witness is warned not to communicate or talk to anyone else concerning the case.

These practices are not followed in our local criminal courts.

Lacks of Dignity

One of the most undignified of the witnesses who have appeared to date in the Rollins affair has been a steward's mate who has been in the Navy for sometime and recently signed up for another stretch.

He lounged in his chair before superior officers with one leg over one of its arms. His head rested on one of his hands throughout the proceedings as though he were asleep.

Actually he was asked at one time by Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman, one of Rollins's attorneys, "Are you awake?"

Nothing was said to him at the time by his superior officers there about this deportment.

Antagonism of Co-Workers

Several observers have expressed the opinion that Rollins would not have been brought to trial had not there been some of his own race working with him who did not like him.

Many persons, including some attaches at the academy, have said they don't think he should have been brought to trial anyway.

Open, But Not Easily Accessible

The court-martial has been declared open, but outsiders attempting to gain admittance would have to obtain a pass through the academy's office of public relations to insure passage by guards at entrance to the chamber.

Obtaining the pass undoubtedly would call for avalid reason for the desired attendance—something other than just sitting and listening.

The court-martial is being held in basement Room 513, located in the left wing of the academy's Bancroft Hall, a huge block-long building used as dormitory for midshipmen.

The room itself is part of a lounge used by visiting teams and midshipmen billeted nearby.

Highest number of questions and answers from a single witness to date is 234.

Steward's Mate 1/c Curtis Carter, former employee at the academy's North Severn Officers' Club, who allegedly witnessed the charged intimate relations through a wal peep-hole, was this longest-queried witness.

Questioning of Carter took up approximately five and a half hours, or nearly an entire day in court.

Testimony on Sex Counts Kept Secret in Rollins Case

The Afro-American

Sat. 6-22-44

ANNAPOLIS — Spectators and working members of the press alike were barred from court here at the U.S. Naval Academy, Thursday, as the Navy prosecutors presented to a seven-officer court-martial board testimony against Chief Steward's Mate Walter W. Rollins on charges of adultery and having abnormal sex relations with a white woman.

W. W. Rollins

The closed session lasted five and a half hours. During this period, Steward's Mate 1/c Curtis Carter, a former employee at the North Severn Officers' Club who Navy prosecutors contend witnessed Rollins's intimate relations with the woman, was the sole witness.

The court-martial has been declared open since last Friday when the prosecution lost a motion to have it closed even to newsmen.

Closed Session Okeyed

The closed session Thursday, however, was agreed to by Rollins's attorneys, Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman, white, of New York, and Capt. Franz O. Willenbucher, USN (retired), of New York and Washington.

Additional testimony was to be given Monday as the trial enters its ninth day. It is expected to continue for another week.

Rollins, in addition to the two moral charges, is accused of stealing and embezzling $267 worth of alcoholic beverages from the officers' club where he was the enlisted man in charge from January, 1943, to Feb. 12, of this year, gambling and bad conduct in his basement quarters.

Both Rooms "Open"

Steward's Mate 1/c Carter is listed by prosecutors, Capt. Jesse R. Wallace, USN, and Lt. Com. William L. P. Burke, USN, as one of the "peeping toms" who during last September shared a room adjoining Rollins's.

They contend that during this period a ventilation system was being installed in the building and that the wall around a pipe running through these two basement rooms had not been repaired.

The prosecutors said a person in one of the rooms could stand beside the pipe and look into the other.

Musician's Wife Testifies

Steward's Mate 1/c Carter is believed to have been queried during the closed session Thursday on what he saw and heard last September, in reference to the two morals charges against Rollins and Margaret A. Sima, wife of Musician 1/c William R. Sima Jr., an Academy bandsman.

Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., confers with his attorney, Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richmond of New York during his court-martial trial now in its second week. He faces charges of theft, embezzlement, gambling, misconduct and sex irregularities growing out of an all-night interracial party in his basement quarters. A native of the Virgin Islands, Rollins has 26 years' service in the Navy. His wife and three children reside in New York.

Mrs. Margaret A. Sima, 23, talks with her husband, William Sima Jr., Naval Academy bandsman, after testifying before a Navy general court-martial that she had never been in the room of Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, without her husband. However, Rollins is charged with adultery and misconduct with Mrs. Sima. The Simas were among guests at an all-night party in Rollins' quarters which resulted in the charges.

Mrs. Sima followed Carter to the stand Thursday afternoon and was questioned an hour about her association with Rollins.

Mrs. Sima said she met Rollins two years ago at the club and had visited his quarters about six times, but always in the company of her husband and his parents, Lt. and Mrs. William Sima Sr. The senior Sima has been suspend-

by Commander Burke, that she had told him previously that there had been "nothing going on in Rol-

ed as Academy bandleader.

Admits Giving Picture

Queried about a picture of her found in Rollins's quarters, Mrs. Sima said that she had given the photo to him some time ago in the presence of the elder Simas and her husband, and with the latter's approval.

Declaring that she had never seen any card playing in the accused man's rooms, Mrs. Sima also denied in response to questioning

Officer Refuses to Talk

Also testifying on Wednesday he stated then that lins's quarters were:

Misses Ida Williams, bar maid, and Miss Mary Williams, maid, at the officers' club, who said they had served Rollins and some

Lieutenant Sima, who said he had been to Rollins's quarters on occasions she visited "five or six times" but refused to answer further queries because there had been no guests on the morning of Feb. 10 but had

Hairdresser Contradicts Self

Although she stated during the sessions on Wednesday that she had been "nothing going on in Rollins's quarters but gambling," or drinking in the occasion because she had not realize the "seriousness of disorder."

During the sessions on Wednesday, Mrs. Agnes R. Thompson, white hairdresser, gave evidence which she admitted was contrary to testimony given during the previous occasion by Musician 1/c Sima a few weeks ago

Conglomeration of Testimony

Annapolis Steward's Record Held Proof of His Innocence

Afro-American
Baltimore Md.

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—The 26-year-old record of Chief Steward's Mate Walter R. Rollins, who will face trial on 18 counts ranging from theft of whisky to adultery, is offered as proof that the charges are unwarranted, in a letter to the AFRO from a Government employee stationed here. 5-18-46

Pointing out that his defense might militate against him, the writer, who is slated to retire soon, refutes the various charges against the steward and insists that "a man who has built up the service record he has doesn't deserve anything but just and fair consideration."

Says Charges Cannot Be Proved

Commenting on specific charges, he points out that of stealing whisky is minor because Rollins himself never was in full charge of the whisky, and too many handled it to permit such a charge against any one person to stand. As to drinking, he says that the accused man's 26 years of service "with all gold stripes" prove that he could not have been a drunkard.

The writer, who also states that his race is immaterial to the issue, says finally that inasmuch as Bandsman William Sima Jr. was exonerated on charges of being entertained in Rollins's quarters and gambling there, there is no basis whatsoever for the same charges being placed against the steward.

Counsel Named for Naval Steward

AFro American
Baltimore Md.

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Appointment of Naval and civilian counsel for Chief Steward's Mate Walter R. Rollins who faces general court-martial on 18 charges, including theft of liquor, gambling and adultery, was announced on Wednesday at the United States Naval Academy.

The Naval attorney appointed by Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal is Capt. Franz Willenbucher (U.S.N., retired) who graduated from the academy in 1918.

The civilian attorney will be Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman of the Richman and Richman Law Firm, 37 Wall St., New York.

In a public statement, Mrs. Richman revealed that she had been requested by Mrs. Rollins to act as civilian counsel for her husband. "After conference with Mr. Rollins during which we discussed his case in detail, I formed the opinion that he is innocent and agreed to act as his attorney," Mrs. Richman said. 5-18-46

3 Admirals Testify For Navy Steward

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

By the United Press.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., June 21.—Three admirals told a Navy court-martial today of their respect for the honesty of Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, Virgin Islands-born Negro, who is being court-martialed on six charges ranging from embezzlement of Navy liquor to adultery. 6-21-46-Fi.

Vice Adm. Arthur W. Radford, deputy chief of naval operations, said he had known Rollins for 10 or 15 years and found he had an "excellent reputation for honesty and financial integrity."

Rear Adms. Samuel P. Ginder, commandant of the U. S. Naval Air Station in Seattle, and John R. Beardall, commandant of the 15th Naval District, gave similar testimony in depositions read to the seven-man Navy court. Adm. Beardall once was superintendent of the U. S. Naval Academy, where Rollins serves as steward of the officers' club.

The two admirals stated that Rollins had worked under their command and had served efficiently as a mess steward, handling funds and property.

World-Telegram

Cmdr. William B. Porter testified that one of the major prosecution witnesses, Negro Steward 1/c Aaron Wilson, was awaiting a bad conduct discharge as a result of a theft conviction.

Wilson had denied on cross-examination that he was awaiting such a discharge. He had testified that he saw Mrs. Margaret Sima alone with the steward in Rollins' basement room in the North Severn officers' club.

Rollins' Trial Prosecution Closes Case

Annapolis, Md., June 20 (AP).—Defeated in an attempt to place in evidence the recor dof a previous court-martial in which Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins had testified, the prosecution finished with its last announced witness today in the Negro enlisted man's trial on sex charges, theft and embezzlement.

The move came after the stenographic record of testimony taken in secret sessions was made available by prosecution and defense agreement.

This record disclosed that Curtis Carter, steward's mate first class, had testified behind closed doors last Thursday that he had seen the blonde wife of a Naval Academy bandsman with Rollins in his tiny basement room while she was partially disrobed.

Carter was a key witness in the prosecution case against Rollins, who is charged with adultery with a white woman, another sex offense, theft, embezzlement, and other misconduct. 6-21-46

Photograph Shown

The record stated Carter was shown a framed photograph of Mrs. Margaret A. Sima, jr., and that he identified her as the woman he saw in the Virgin Islands Negro's room one night last summer when he looked through an aperture in the wall of his adjoining compartment.

Mrs. Sima previously denied from the witness stand that she had ever been alone with Rollins. The defendant himself pleaded innocent to all charges at the outset of his trial, 14 days ago.

Other secret testimony contained in the record disclosed that two prosecution witnesses—W. R. Burts and Joseph James, both Negro enlisted men who serve under Rollins at the North Severn Officers Mess—told the seven-officer tribunal that Carter had denied to them he had seen all this.

The declared Carter had made thi sadmission to them when they read his sworn statement which he had made to Lieut. Comdr. William L. P. Burke, co-judge advocate, when they gave their own statements to him and in an antechamber asked Carter whether his was the truth. Washington

Credibility Attacked

The defense used these statements as the main weapon in its assault on Carter's credibility, but he reiterated his story during subsequent recall and verification which also was conducted behind closed doors.

Today, Lieut. Thomas J. Cummings, a Naval Academy officer testified he had found two women's bathing suits in Rollins' room February 13, when he made an inventory of the chief's quarters following his arrest. 7-2C

These garments were introduced in evidence over strenuous defense objections, but no further attempt was made to connect the suits with any of the charges and specifications. 6-21-46

"A tremendous chain of circumstances is being constructed," Commander Burke explained to the court.

Commander Davis in Stand

The next, and probably last, prosecution witness was Comdr. Donald W. Davis, who presided over the summary court martial which several months ago tried Mrs. Sima's husband, Musician First Class William R. Sima, jr., and convicted him on a charge of introducing his wife to Rollin's quarter.

The prosecution asked Davis to identify the record of these proceedings, but met with a stern defense objection when it sought to submit in evidence the record of Rollins' testimony at that trial. The tribunal upheld the defense.

Capt. Jesse R. Wallace, co-judge advocate, then said "we are not formally closing our case at this time because there is a possibility we might have another witness tomorrow." Washington Post 6-21-46

Rollins' Trial Prosecution Gets Setback

Annapolis, Md., June 18 (AP).—Unspecified "surprise developments" during secret defense cross-examination of a witness today halted the prosecution's progress in the Navy court-martial of Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, Negro, on trial on two sex charges and four other counts.

Capt. Jesse R. Wallace, cojudge advocate, unexpectedly moved at the beginning of the afternoon session for a recess until tomorrow morning. The prosecution said it was seeking time to prepare a brief dealing with the defense attorney's assault on the credibility of a key witness. N.Y. 6-19-46

Rollins, a 47-year-old Virgin Islands native, pleaded innocent to charges of sex offenses, gambling, theft, embezzlement and misconduct at the start of his trial 12 days ago.

Testimony Attacked

The seven-member court-martial heard testimony yesterday from Aaron Wilson, Negro enlisted man, that he had seen Rollins and Mrs. Margaret A. Sima, blonde wife of a Navy bandsman, in Rollins' quarters when no one else was present. Mrs. Sima has testified that she never was there except in company of her husband. Washington

The defense assault against prosecution testimony reached its height after Wilson left the stand and the court went into secret session following the disclosure by another presecution witness that he had made a statement to the defense attorneys bearing on the earlier testimony by Curtis Carter, Negro steward's mate first class, who testified behind closed doors on the sex charges.

Today, Joseph James, cook third class, said on the witness stand he had made a similar statement to defense attorneys, and, as yesterday, the press was excluded from the court room when the defense presumably produced what the prosecution witness had volunteered to them a few days ago.

Bitter Legal Clash D.C.

The nature of James' testimony on the point was not disclosed, but a spokesman said it precipitated another bitter legal clash—the second in as many days—between the co-judges advocate and Rollins' defense attorney.

The prosecution said it intended to wind up its case against Rollins tomorrow, but further delay in the proceedings appeared likely after the defense declared it would probably ask for time to prepare a reply to the prosecution brief.

Before the session as closed, James—who had served under Rollins at the North Severn officers' mess—said in response to prosecution questions he had served food in Rollins' room "two or three times, when he had his parties."

On those occasions, he said, Lieut. William R. Sima, sr., suspended leader of the Naval Academy Band; Mrs. Rebecca Truman Sima, sr.; their son, Musician (first class) William R. Sima, jr., and his comely blond wife, Margaret A. Sima, jr., were present.

He stated he had heard no "unnecessary noises" from Rollins' room at these parties. James slept in a dormitory adjoining the chief steward's room. N.Y. 6-19-46

Not Unduly Noisy

He had seen no card playing on these occasions, he added, and, while he had seen soda water, ice and ginger ale in the room, he had not seen any whisky.

James explained that Rollins' parties had produced no undue noise, volunteering that "at parties you have to laugh and talk." Lieut. Comdr. William L. P. Burke, co-judge advocate who conducted the direct examination, at times seemed startled by James' testimony.

Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman, Rollins' civilian defense attorney, then cross-examined James and he admitted he had made a statement to the defense lawyers. After this, the session was closed.

Card Evidence Rejected From Rollins' Trial

Annapolis, Md., June 14 (AP).—The defense blocked prosecution attempts today to introduce in evi-

dence post cards written by Mrs. Margaret A. Sima and her mother-in-law to Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, Negro being tried by a Navy general court martial.

Lieut. Comdr. William L. P. Burke, cojudge advocate, argued against the cards related to an adultery charge against Rollins, a native of the Virgin Islands, is charged with two sex

asserted the cards were linked in tremendous chain of circumstances" and added that "any circumstances" surrounding the association of an all-night party in his between Rollins and Marquarters at the North Severn Officers' club. Sima bears upon" the charges offenses, theft, embezzlement, gambling and misconduct. The charges grew out of an investigation of an all-night party in his

Defense Wins Point

Figures in Court-Martial of Steward

Associated Press Photo

ON WAY TO TRIAL—Lieut. and Mrs. William R. Sima, sr., (left couple), and Musician 1/c and Mrs. William R. Sima, jr. (right couple), walk across the Naval Academy grounds at Annapolis, Md., on their way to the trial by court-martial of Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, Negro

Virgin Islander Denies Adultery With Blond Spouse

WASHINGTON — (ANP) Answer to the plea for dismissal of all charges against Navy Chief Steward Walter W. Rollin, a West Indian, made by his lawyer, Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman, is expected this week, Mrs. Richman made the plea for her client on the grounds that the court has "no jurisdiction over the subject of the trial."

Rollins, 46-year-old attendant in the North Severn officer's mess, has been accused of theft, embezzlement, gambling, misconduct, and adultery with the blond, young daughter-in-law of the Naval Academy bandmaster.

Also defended by Capt. Otto Willenbucher, of the navy, Rollins has pleaded innocent to charges that he conducted all-night, drinking parties in his basement huarters at the officer's club, and to charges that adultery with Mrs. Margaret Sima, wife of William R. Sima Jr., took place on two of these occasions, on August. 15 and Sept. 15.

Sima, whose father is director of the naval academy band, was convicted by a courtmartial last Maech of conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline. His father, who with his mother was named by the prosecution as guest at the "loud and boisterous" parties, has been suspended and confined to the Annapolis limits. Sima Jr., is on probation.

Rollins, a native Virgin Islander was arrested last Feb. 12 after one of the parties where he is said to have "pilfered $267 worth of liquor" from the Officers' Club for his guests.

Secy. of the Navy Forrestal ordered the charges against Rollins heard in private, but the defendant's attorney insisted that the press be premitted to hear them. Mrs. Richman said a dely of 78 days before Rollins was informed of charges against him violated his constitutional rights as provided by the fifth amendment.

At the suggestion of Capt. Ralph Earle Jr., heard of the seven-officer court, Rollins' 38-yearold wife, Valberg, deft the courtroom during reading of the "scandalous conduct and adultery" charges.

The co-judge advocate, Capt. Jesse R. Wallace, urged systematic hours of session "since this is apparently going to be a long trial." The court then agreed to meet regularly from 10 a. m. until noon, and from 1:30 p. m. to 4:30 p. m. daily for the duration of the closed session trial.

The defense insisted that the post cards were irrevelant and inadmissible, and the court upheld tthem twice. Afteer each instance, Burke abruptly closed his interrogation of the witnesses, and the defense waived cros examination.

Mrs. Margaret Sima, blonde, 23-year-old wife of Musician Third Class William R. Sima, jr., who testified for the second day today, readily admitted she had sent the steward a card from New Hampshire, where she and Mrs. Rebecca Truman Sima, her mother-in-law, were vacationing last September.

She identified a picture postcard shown her by Burke as one she had written. The defense objection came when the prosecutor asked her to read it into the record.

Denies Rollins Was Guest

Margaret Sima yesterday denied she had ever been alone with Rollins' in his room, and today the elder Mrs. Sima testified she knew of no instance when her daughter-in-law had entertained Rollins at her home prior to last December, when she gave the enlisted man a framed photograph of herself.

The card written by the elder Mrs. Sima provoked a lengthy exchange between defense and prosecution on relevancy, and when Burke began to quote the salutation of the card to prove his case, both defense attorneys sprang to their feet and shouted objections, which were sustained.

Describing an all-night party at the Negro chief's quarters February 10, she said "we all had drinks with the exception of my son, William R. Sima, jr."

Present besides herself at the party were Lieut. William R. Sima, sr., suspended leader of the Naval Academy Band; Margaret Sima, her husband, and Mrs. Agnes Ruth Thompson, an Annapolis hairdresser.

Guest Declared Ill

Mrs. Thompson had a "severe headache," Mrs. Sima testified, and with a "cold towel about her head" dozed a while as the others played the phonograph, danced, and chatted, in the Negro enlisted man's tiny basement room. It was because of Mrs. Thompson's indisposition that the party stayed so late, Mrs. Sima told the court.

The court recessed at 1 p. m. and will meet tomorrow for a review of the record. No testimony is to be taken.

Navy Court-Martial Board Deliberating Rollins's Guilt

Proceedings during the week included a court holiday on Monday and the presentation on Tuesday of the opening arguments of Navy prosecutors, Capt. Jesse R. Wallace, USN, and Lt. Cdr. William L. P. Burke, USN.

They demanded that Rollins be convicted on all the six charges against him, arguing that their witnesses had established his guilt without shadow of doubt.

Defense Case Lengthy

Defense attorneys for Rollins, Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman, of New York, and Capt. Otto Willenbucher, USN (retired), of New York and Washington, presented in writing their arguments on Wednesday, following Navy prosecutors' 18-page document contending that Rollins had failed to make out a prima facie case against him, and asked that he be acquitted.

Referring to the theft and embezzlement charges, they pointed out that the accused man's written statement to his capain shortly after his arrest, in which he admitted that he allowed himself a bottle of some alcoholic beverage a week from the club, showed that he had no intentions of defrauding club officials.

They argued that there had been presented in court no actual proof of bad conduct or gambling for money with cards on the part of their client.

Racial Angle Ignored

The morals carges, the defense said, were equally without foundation and grew out of the statements of one witness who admitted his dislike for Rollins.

Proceedings on Thursday were marked by rebuttal closing arguments by the Navy prosecutors, in an 18-page document of 6,000 words, which they reiterated their demands for the conviction of Rollins on all charges.

Their was an 11,000 word statement of some 6,000 words, which contended that Navy prosecutors had failed to make out a prima facie case against Rollins, and asked that he be acquitted.

Referring to the theft and embezzlement charges, they pointed out that the accused man's written statement to his capain shortly after his arrest, in which he admitted that he allowed himself a bottle of some alcoholic beverage a week from the club, showed that he had no intentions of defrauding club officials.

They argued that there had been presented in court no actual proof of bad conduct or gambling for money with cards on the part of their client.

Racial Angle Ignored

The morals carges, the defense said, were equally without foundation and grew out of the statements of one witness who admitted his dislike for Rollins.

Prosecution's Case

This argument, for procedure, was presented in writ-ten form and read to the court. It was a 35-rage document containing about 13,650 words.

Defense attorneys Mrs. Evelyn Baker Richman, of New York, and Capt. Otto Willenbucher, USN (retired), of New York and Washington, presented their arguments on Wednesday.

Proceedings on Thursday were marked by rebuttal closing arguments by the Navy prosecutors, in an 18-page document of 6,000 words, which they reiterated their demands for the conviction of Rollins on all charges.

Board Unlimited in Power

This court-martial board is empowered to mete out whatever punishment it deems proper, if it decides to convict Rollins.

Four Added Charges

Four other charges include

Rollins Gets 2 Years; Bad Conduct Discharge

Tribune Washington, D.C.
Sat 8-31-46

Annapolis, Md., (NNPA)—Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, a veteran of 27 years of service in the Navy was sentenced to serve two years in prison and to be reduced to steward's mate, third class, with a bad conduct discharge to follow his release from prison.

From the testimony in the case, his chief offense appeared to be his familiarity with a 22-year-old white woman, Mrs. Margadet A. Sima, wife of Musician First Class William R. Sima, Jr., and his socializing with white people.

Steeped in Southern tradition, the Navy apparently was unwilling to exonerate Rollins of all charges preferred against him. The court-martial which tried him found him not guilty of lascivious conduct with Mrs. Sima, but found him guilty of committing adultery with her on the same evidence which it disbelieved in the other serious charge.

The reviewing authority upheld the conviction of Rollins on four counts — adultery, theft, gambling and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The court-martial which tried Rollins imposed a six-year prison term and a dishonorable discharge but the reviewing authority reduced the sentence.

Rollins' sentence was announced during the trial of the elder Sima accused of perjury, extortion, gambling, neglect of duty and violation of several Navy regulations.

Sat 8-31-46

The younger Sima was convicted of taking his wife to the quarters of Rollins but his sentence was later remitted.

Rollins heard his sentence aboard the Reina Medcedes. His term will be served at the Navy's disciplinary barracks at Portsmouth, N.H.

Navy Steward Found Innocent Of Sex Charges

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch

ANNAPOLIS, MD., July 1—(UP)—Walter W. Rollins, Negro chief steward at the swank North Severn Officers' Club, was found innocent by a Navy general court-martial today of charges of lascivious conduct with honey-haired Mrs. Margaret Sima, attractive white wife of a Naval Academy musician.

7-2-46

The court withheld publication of its findings on another charge against the West Indian Negro of adultery with Mrs. Sima in his tiny bedroom quarters at the club.

Naval general court-martial procedure requires that the court announce ony its findings of innocence pending a review of its decisions by the Navy Department.

Other charges against Rollins on which findings were not announced include theft of 89 bottles of liquor from the club, and permitting visitors to create disturbances in his quarters on specified occasions. In addition to being found innocent on the lascivious conduct charges, the court declared Rollins innocent of another adultery charge, drinking in his quarters, and permitting disturbances on other specified occasions.

Mixed party gets 2 years in jail for Navyman

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat 9-7-46

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—Forty-seven-year-old Walter M. Rollins, chief steward and a member of the U.S. Navy for 27 years, was last week sentenced to two years in jail by a Navy court martial for having held an interracial party in his quarters and especially for having become too friendly with the wife of a Naval officer at the Academy.

Rollins, born in the Virgin Islands and described as unusually cultured and intelligent, was also demoted to steward's mate, third class, with a bad conduct discharge to follow his prison term.

The party in question was held last February, according to testimony, and was attended by Mrs. Agnes Ruth Thomson, local hairdresser; Lt. William R. Sima, Sr., Academy bandleader, who was suspended for his part in the merrymaking; his wife, Rebecca; their son, Lt. William, Jr., who was first convicted for taking his wife to the quarters of a Negro enlisted man, but whose sentence was remitted; and his wife, Margaret.

The court martial recommended a six-year term and dishonorable discharge, but the reviewing authority, upholding his conviction on adultery with a white woman, Mrs. Sima, Jr.; theft, gambling, and bad conduct, reduced the sentence.

He was found innocent of other morals charges, lascivious conduct with a white woman, embezzlement, and scandalous conduct. One witness at the trial testified that he had seen the younger Mrs. Sima in Rollins' quarters, only partly dressed.

Gets 2 Years For "Illicit Romance"

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.
Sat 9-7-46

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Aug. (NNPA)—Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, a veteran of 27 years of service in the Navy, was sentenced to serve two years in prison and to be reduced to steward's mate, third class, with a bad conduct discharge to follow his release from prison.

From the testimony in the case, his chief offense appeared to be his familiarity with a 22-year white woman, Mrs. Margaret A. Sima, wife of Musician First Class William R. Sima Jr., and his socializing with white people.

Not Guilty—But—

Steeped in southern tradition, the Navy apparently was unwilling to exonerate Rollins of all charges preferred against him. The court-martial which tried him found him not guilty of lascivious conduct with Mrs. Sima, but found him guilty of committing adultery with her on the same evidence which it disbelieved in the other serious charge.

The reviewing authority upheld the conviction of Rollins on four counts—adultery, theft, gambling and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The gambling charge grew out of an all-night party in Rollins' quarters last February 10 in the basement of the North Severn Officers' Club. Present at this party were Lieutenant William R. Sima Sr., suspended Naval Academy bandleader; his wife, Rebecca; Sima's son and his son's wife, Margaret, and Mrs. Agnes Ruth Thompson, a white hairdresser of Annapolis.

The Messman Talked

At the trial even the prosecution conceded that there was "a reasonable hypothesis of innocence" on the gambling charge, since it had not been proved that money passed between Rollins and his guests when they played cards in his quarters.

Rollins' conviction on the adultery charge was based chiefly on the testimony of a messman that he had peeped through a hole into Rollins' quarters and seen the chief steward engage in intimacies with the younger Mrs. Sima. This testimony was discounted insofar as the charge of his having committed any unnatural act was concerned.

"Theft" Rap

The theft conviction was based on Rollins' admission that he took a bottle of whiskey from the officers' mess weekly because he felt he was "justified in doing so" since he worked long hours.

The court-martial which tried Rollins imposed a six-year prison term and a dishonorable discharge but the reviewing authority reduced the sentence.

Rollins' sentence was announced during the trial of the elder Sima accused of perjury, extortion, gambling, neglect of duty and violation of several Navy regulations.

Young Sima Spared

The younger Sima was convicted of taking his wife to the quarters of Rollins but his sentence was later remitted.

Rollins heard his sentence aboard the Reina Mercedes. His term will be served at the Navy's disciplinary barracks at Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

62a 1946

Annapolis (Rollin's trial) (1)

The Adulterous Navy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Walter W. Rollins, 47-year-old West Indian, after twenty-seven years of service in the Navy, was reduced to steward's mate with a bad conduct discharge to follow his release from a two-year prison term sentence following a court-martial at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

The chief charge against Rollins was "adultery with a white woman."

What a stinker the U. S. Navy is. The only thing that can be said to its credit is that it is perfectly frank about its racial superiority buncombe. Sat. 9-7-46

Rollins was not accused and found guilty of plain adultery. That would be too much of a mockery and sham.

No matter what the books say, it is not customary for the Navy to fire its personnel on the charges of adultery. Like the Army, the Navy regulates houses of prostitution and provides prophylactic stations to keep its men free from venereal disease.

Even if the regulations required prosecution of a man for committing adultery, the Navy is already an accessory to adultery by providing men with contraceptive devices.

So, in the Rollins case the Navy was not interested in simple adultery.

It was interested in social equality.

Colored seamen must be taught their places.

They must not have love affairs with white women who fall in love with them.

And so the charge against Rollins and the charge on which he was convicted was "adultery with a white woman."

When more and better plans for race prejudice are thought of, the Navy will make use of them.

Convict Rollins on Four Counts

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Navy Man Associated With White Woman

Sat. 8-31-46

RANK REDUCED

Bad Conduct Discharge Follows Prison Term

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—(NNPA)—Chief Steward Walter W. Rollins, a veteran of 27 years of service in the Navy, was sentenced Friday to serve two years in prison and to be reduced to steward's mate, third class, with a bad conduct discharge to follow his release from prison.

From the testimony in the case, his chief offense appeared to be his familiarity with a 22-year-old white woman, Mrs. Margare A. Sima, wife of Musician First Class William R. Sima Jr., and his socializing with white people.

Steeped in Southern tradition, the Navy apparently was unwilling to exonerate Rollins of all charges preferred against him. The court-martial which tried him found him not guilty of lascivious conduct with Mrs. Sima, but found him guilty of committing adultery on the same evidence which it disbelieved in the other serious charge.

Convicted on 4 Counts

The reviewing authority upheld the conviction of Rollins on four counts—adultery, theft, gambling and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The gambling charge grew out of an all-night party in Rollins's quarters last Feb. 10 in the basement of the North Severn Officers' Club. Present at this party were Lieutenant William R. Sima Sr., suspended Naval Academy bandleader; his wife, Rebecca; Sima's son and his son's wife, Margaret, and Mrs. Agnes Ruth Thompson, a white hairdresser of Annapolis.

WALTER W. ROLLINS

At the trial even the prosecution conceded that there was "a reasonable hypothesis of innocence" on the gambling charge, since it had not been proved that money passed between Rollins and his guests when they played cards in his quarters.

Messman Peeped

Rollins's conviction on the adultery charge was based chiefly on the testimony of a messman that he had peeped through a hole into Rollins's quarters and seen the chief steward engege in intimacies with the younger Mrs. Sima. This testimony was discounted insofar as the charge of his having committed any unnatural act was concerned. Afro-American

The theft conviction was based on Rollins's admission that he took a bottle of whiskey from the officers' mess weekly because he felt he was "justified in doing so" since he worked long hours.

The court-martial which tried Rollins imposed a six-year prison term and a dishonorable discharge but the reviewing authority reduced the sentence.

Rollin's sentence was announced during the trial of the elder Sima accused of perjury, extortion, gambling, neglect of duty and violation of several Navy regulations. Baltimore, Md.

The younger Sima was convicted of taking his wife to the quarters of Rollins but his sentence was later remitted. Sat. 8-31-46

Rollins heard his sentence aboard the Reina Mercedes. His term will be served at the Navy's disciplinary barracks at Portsmouth, N.H.

West Point, Annapolis exams open

Tribune
Los Angeles
Calif.

A chance to have several more David Carlisles was given the community this week by Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglas, who has invited young men of the 14th congressional district to take part in civil service examinations July 24 for selection of appointees to United States naval and military academies. Carlisle, a Gahagan appointee and the first Negro to be named to West Point from the West Coast, leaves this week to report to the academy.

6-22-46

There is one vacancy to be filled for each academy, according to Rep. Douglas. The deadline for application was June 15. The examination will be held at the post office and court house building here.

Sat. 6-22-46

No special preparation for the test is required. Candidates may procure from Mrs. Douglas a copy of the naval and military academies' booklet to prepare themselves.

Non-veterans between the ages of 17 and 21 are eligible, while the veterans' age limit is 23.

6-22-46

Whose Academies Are They

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

The head coach at Virginia Military Institute (VMI) wailed long and loud recently that the Army and Navy have both raided his football squad "without any regard for scholastic qualifications."

We had been led to believe that it is so hard to get into the Naval Academy that a vacancy can be filled only through appointment by some Congressman.

Sat. 8-31-46

Our only representative at the Academy now is Midshipman Wesley Brown, appointee of Congressman Adam C. Powell, Jr., who recently successfully completed his first year at Annapolis.

If the doors are opened as easily as it appears, then it should be our job to have others apply.

Secondly, if the Naval Academy has full liberty to raid college football teams, this means that the Academy can make arrangements to fill its own vacancies. It is high time, then, that we looked into this whole matter of how appointments are made to Annapolis and West Point if we're ever to get increased representation at these two schools.

Students Can Get Into Naval Academy Without Congressional Appointment

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-10-46

Military Schools May Send Cadets as Well as U.S. Government Officials

WASHINGTON (Afro National Bureau) — The charge made recently by the head coach of Virginia Military Institute that both West Point and Annapolis Naval Academy were raiding his football teams brought to light some interesting facts about appointments to these Government-operated institutions.

The question was asked how could these potential gridiron stars be lured to the Army-Navy schools without Congressional appointment. The answer, it seems, is simple.

Method

There are 10 military schools in the country, of which Virginia Military is one, which are permitted to send students direct to the Naval Academy without political intercession.

It is on this basis that either coachess or other interested parties can recommend students from these military schools and bring about their appointment.

Until recently Howard University, Hampton Institute and Tuskegee all had either ROTC or cadet corps, but none of the students participating iln these actvities were eligible for direct appointment because the schools did not come under what is termed military institutions.

Non-Whites Named

Each Congressman is permitted to make two appointments each to Annapolis and West Point. Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglass of California recently appointed a youth from her district to Annapolis and Congressman Powell also nominated two to that institution.

One of these appointees is progressing without untoward incident while the other has not yet reported, completing work at Howard University before matriculating. There are 431 Representatives, many from strong colored districts.

The President can appoint 25 candidates to either institution, but they must be the sons of either Army or Navy men.

Naval Appointments

The secretary of the Navy also has the privilege of appointing 40 sons of veterans of either the Army or Navy who served in World War I or World War II.

Other appointments are made to Annapolis directly from the naval fleet through competitive examinations. These appointments are made by commanding officers with 100 from the regular Navy and 100 from the Naval Reserve.

The Secretary of War has a similar right in regard to West Point. Ten additional can be appointed from the Naval Reserve Officers' Corps where such units are conducted in non-military schools.

In Case of Defeat

While each Congressman has appointive powers, in case he is defeated, his successor does not have the privilege of naming four additional candidates until the quota allotted to the District is open.

If the defeated Congressman has already named three, his successor appoints only one until the others graduate or drop out, making a vacancy.

To get more candidates into these institutions in addition to friendly Congressmen, pressure can be brought on the President, the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy to allocate some of their appointments to colored youths.

62a 1946

Kin of West Pointer killed in action, interviewed here

Los Angeles Tribune

By DAVID K. CARLISLE

2-2-46

Thunder filled the sky. The flight of sleek P-47 Thunderbolts hurtled on. The speeding ships were so low, so close to the turbulent waters of the Ligurian sea that they seemed to wallow in the churning troughs through which they flew.

Calif.

Suddenly a high, foam-crested wave struck a ship! It was the first plane, piloted by the leader of the flight. Spinning crazily to the left, it plunged, power on, into a horrible, gaping hole in the water.

And so, Captain Robert Bernard Tresville, Jr., commander of the all-Negro 100th fighter squadron, met his death off the coast of southern France in 1944.

Last Tuesday I sat with chief warrant officer Robert B. Tresville, Sr., U. S. Army retired, and Mrs. Tresville in their beautiful new home at 3677 Fourth ave., and went through the scrap book which bore mute testimony to the brilliant career interrupted by death.

Taking the pinnacle of that career first, Captain Tresville brought distinction to the race as a graduate from West Point; and furthermore as the first Negro to represent the Academy "on the fields of friendly strife", playing tennis and running on the track team.

Commissioned in 1943, he was assigned to the air force overseas, having previously taken his flying training at Tuskegee Army Air Field. He was married but had never seen his baby daughter. Now two, she lives with her mother, Mrs. Vivien Tresville, who is studying supervisory nursing at the University of Minnesota.

REARED IN ARMY

Born in May of 1921 in Galveston, Tex., the young Robert was brought up on Army posts in Arizona and Georgia, where his father was stationed at various times. An Eagle scout, a junior tennis champion, a Philadelphia high school athletic star, he won a scholarship to Pennsylvania State college and was appointed in 1939 to West Point by Chicago's former congressman, Arthur W. Mitchell.

In possession of these facts, and the scrap book returned by Mrs. Tresville to its place in the living room, I was conducted next during my interview to the bedroom of the youngest Tresville, Britton B., 12, who has never been told of his big brother's death.

The walls of the 12-year-old's sanctuary were hung with airplane pictures, model planes and boats, all the work of the small perfectionist, who expects some day to follow his brother's career in the air. (Not as a West Point graduate, though, his mother pointed out. "One West Pointer is enough for me".)

Fondly, the Tresvilles showed me their elder son's West Point uniforms: the smart gray full dress blouse and trousers, the Pershing cap, the cadet full-dress "shako" cap, of the same type lost by poet Edgar Allen Poe during his cadet days and which he replaced for one parade with a tar bucket. Then we looked over some of the papers Capt. Tresville had saved from his cadet days, English themes, drafting plates, and other samples of his work, all carefully preserved by his mother.

Chief warrant officer Tresville served many years out of a 31-year Army hitch, as bandmaster of the 24th infantry. Graduate of the Institute of Musical Art in New York and the Juilliard School of Music, he saw a year's service in the South Pacific during the war. He moved his family to Los Angeles last April.

West Point graduates 11th Negro

Tribune
Los Angeles Calif
Sat. 6-22-46

WEST POINT, N. Y. — West Point Military academy here graduated its 11th Negro when 2nd Lt Andrew M. McCoy, Jr., of Pittsburgh, Pa., was among those receiving their diplomas and commissions from War Secretary Robert Patterson.

Lt. McCoy was appointed to the Army's highest-ranking military school by Sen. Joseph V. Guffey, of Pennsylvania. His father is a World War I veteran who has been a butler the past quarter of a century in the household of Nathaniel Spear, Pittsburgh furniture magnate.

6-22-46 Sat.

Twenty-eight Negroes have attended West Point since 1870, 11 of whom have graduated, one resigned, and 13 separated from the school before graduation because of deficiencies.

Three are now attending, Edward B. Howard, of Washington D.C.; Edward R. Wills, of Michigan; and Charles L. Smith, of St Louis, Mo. Frank A. Titus, of Illinois, who entered in July, 1944 has resigned.

West Point

Among the graduates are Col Benjamin O. Davis, '36; Capt. Robert B. Tresville, Jr., '43, who died in action with the 332nd Fighter Group; Maj. James D. Fowler, Illinois, '41, who served in the Pacific during the war; Maj. Clarence M. Davenport, Illinois, '43, who fought in the Netherlands East Indies; 2nd Lt. Henry M. Francis, Washington, D.C., '41, stationed at Ft. McClellan, Ala., during the war; 2nd Lt. Ernest J. Davis, Jr., Illinois, '45, stationed at Tuskegee Army Air Field after graduation; and Lt. Mark E. Rivers, New York, '42, assigned to Ft. Sill, Okla., during the war.

Tribune

Earlier graduates were Henry O Flipper, Georgia, '77; John H Alexander, '87; and Charles Young Ohio, '89, all of whom are deceased.

Commencement at West Point

Second Lt. Andrew A. McCoy Jr., of Pittsburgh, Pa., photographed with his fiancee, Miss Frances Walcott of Philadelphia, at West Point where he was graduated, last week.

Name Tuskegee Pilot To West Point Post

The World Memphis, Tenn.
Tues. 9-17-46

TUSKEGEE, — (ANP) — Lt. Thomas McGarrity, formerly of the Tuskegee Army air field, has been appointed to West Point as representative from Chicago. He won his wings here this year and now is at Lockbourne Army Air base in Ohio.

Lt. McGarrity will take a special course at Mitchell Field, New York, then go to the Army academy sometime in the near future.

Eleventh Negro Graduates From West Point Academy

Los Angeles Calif
Sat. 6-22-46

WEST POINT, N. Y.—Andrew A. McCoy, Jr., of Pittsburgh, became the eleventh Negro to graduate from West Point Military Academy Tuesday, June 4. Walking straight and proud across the platform to receive his diploma and commission from the hands of Secretary of War Patterson, he was roundly applauded by the distinguished audience in attendance at the exercises. Second Lieut. McCoy was appointed to West Point by Senator Joseph V. Guffey of Pennsylvania entering in 1870.

He is the son of a soldier, his father, now in attendance. Of the 28 to enter, eleven graduated, one resigned and thirteen having served in World War I with the 3rd Infantry Training Battalion at Fort McClelland, Ala., during World War II, and Second the 505th Engineers. Mr. McCoy were separated from the school before Lieut. Mark E. Rivers, of New York, graduation because of deficiencies. Second Lieut. Henry M. Francis for the past 25 years has been the butler in the household of Nathaniel Spear, furniture magnate in Pittsburgh.

Col. Benjamin O Davis, who commanded the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group in World War II, was graduated from the school in 1936. He is at present commanding officer of the Bombardment Group.

There have been 28 Negroes to Washington, D. C., Edward R. Wills attend the highest-ranking military of Michigan, and Charles L. Smith school of the Army, the first one of St Louis, Mo. Frank A. Titus of Illinois, who entered in July, 1944 has resigned.

Among the graduates are Col Benjamin O. Davis, '36; Capt. Robert B. Tresville, Jr., '43, who died in action with the 332nd Fighter Group; Maj. James D. Fowler, Illinois, '41, who served in the Pacific during the war; Maj. Clarence M. Davenport, Illinois, '43, who fought in the Netherlands East Indies; 2nd Lt. Henry M. Francis, Washington, D.C., '41, stationed at Ft. McClellan, Ala., during the war; 2nd Lt. Ernest J. Davis, Jr., Illinois, '45, stationed at Tuskegee Army Air Field after graduation; and Lt. Mark E. Rivers, New York, '42, assigned to Ft. Sill, Okla., during the war.

Earlier graduates were Henry O Flipper, Georgia, '77; John H Alexander, '87; and Charles Young Ohio, '89, all of whom are deceased.

Capt. Robert B. Tresville, jr. of Illinois, another West Point graduate (1943), was killed in action overseas with the 332nd Fighter Group of which he was a squadron commander.

6-15-46

Major James B. Fowler of Illinois, who was graduated in 1941, served with the 372nd Infantry Regiment in the Pacific Theatre during the war; while Major Clarence M. Davenport of Illinois, class of 1943, served with the 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion in the Netherlands East Indies.

Second Lieut. Henry M. Francis of Washington, D. C., class of 1941, served with the 3rd Infantry Training Battalion at Fort McClelland, Ala., during World War II. Second Lieut. Ernest J. Davis, jr. also of Illinois, class of 1945, was on duty at the Fighter Transition School at the Tuskegee Army Air Field during World War II, and Second Lieut. Mark E. Rivers, of New York, class of 1942, served at the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Okla.

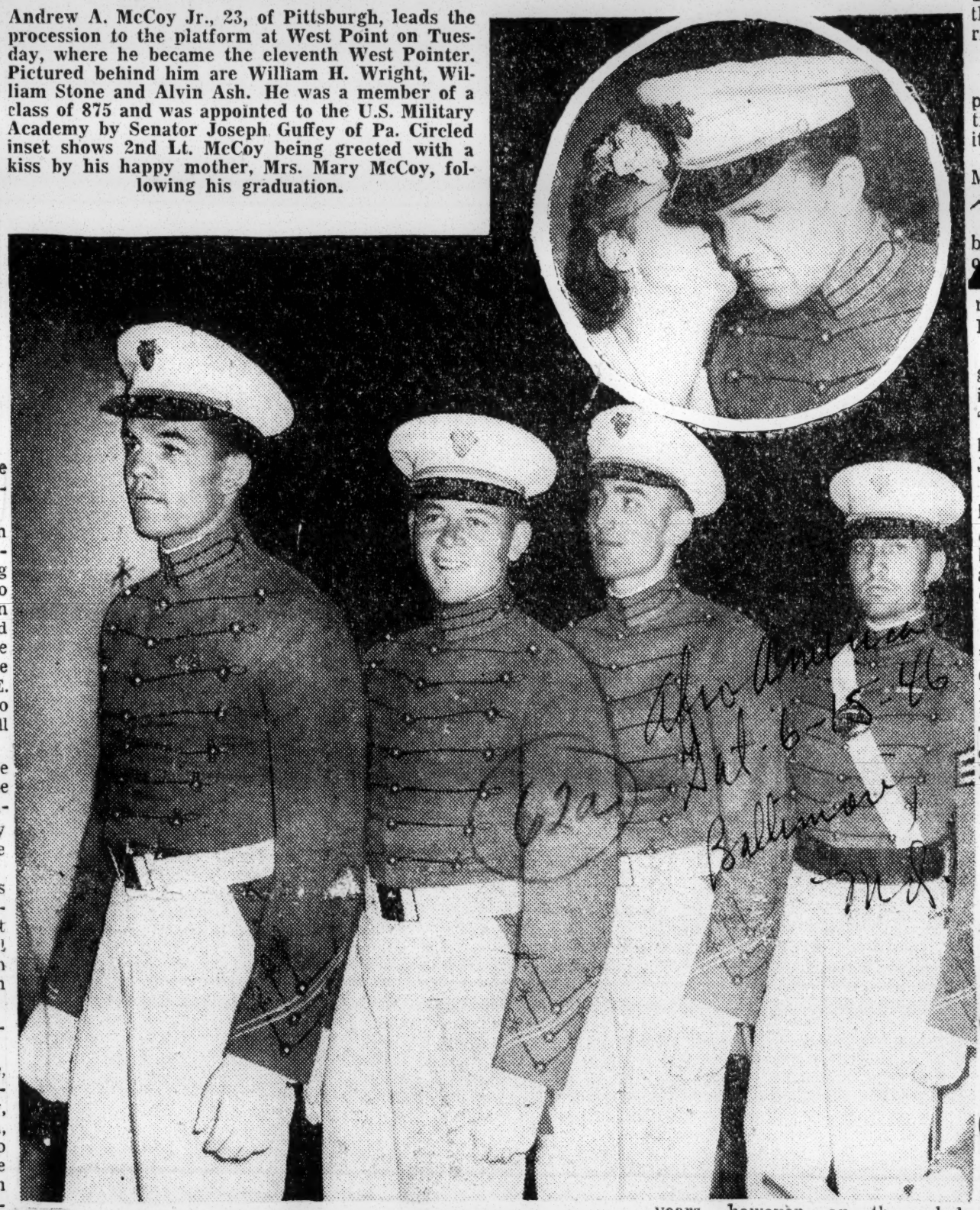
Others who graduated from West Point in earlier days were Henry O. Flipper of Georgia, John H. Alexander of Ohio, and Charles Young, of Ohio, all deceased. They completed their courses in 1877, 1887, and 1889 respectively.

MORE LIBERAL

Just as the Army has shown a more liberal attitude toward Negroes than the Navy, so has West Point's record been more favorable in this connection than that of the

11th West Pointer Walks Up to Receive Diploma

Andrew A. McCoy Jr., 23, of Pittsburgh, leads the procession to the platform at West Point on Tuesday, where he became the eleventh West Pointer. Pictured behind him are William H. Wright, William Stone and Alvin Ash. He was a member of a class of 875 and was appointed to the U.S. Military Academy by Senator Joseph Guffey of Pa. Circled inset shows 2nd Lt. McCoy being greeted with a kiss by his happy mother, Mrs. Mary McCoy, following his graduation.



ANDREW M. McCOY

11th Youth Gets Diploma From West Point Academy

By RICHARD DIER
AFRO Staff Correspondent

WEST POINT, N.Y.—Andrew A. McCoy Jr., 23-year-old Pittsburgh youth, stood with 874 classmates on June 4 to become the eleventh member of his race to be graduated from the United States Military Academy here.

More than 3,000 persons attended the impressive ceremonies.

"It was the most thilling experience of my life," he said after he had received his gold bars, the mark of a second lieutenant.

"I only hope that in future years more colored boys will pass through this place. Not just one out of 875 as in my case. My experiences during the last four years, however, on the whole have been pleasant."

On 45-Day Leave

America's 11th West Pointer left here immediately on a 45-day leave before reporting for duty with the Regular Army.

After completion of the leave, he will report to Luke Field to arrange for gunnery practice and transition detail. Since most of his training involved the Air Corps, he thinks that will be the branch in which he will serve.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew A. McCoy Sr. of 3145 Edward Dr., Pittsburgh, witnessed their son's graduation, as did his fiancee, Miss Frances Wolcott of Tuskegee.

He met Miss Wolcott while undergoing pilot training at the Tuskegee Army Air Base. He said that marriage is not contemplated right away.

Father Very Proud

His father said, "I am very proud of my son. I knew all the time, though, that he would do it."

McCoy also has a married sister, Mrs. Germaine Haines.

Graduated From Pitt

Born in the suburbs of Pittsburgh, the newly commissioned officer attended Brushton public school, junior high school, then matriculated at the University of Pittsburgh.

A pre-law student there, he was graduated as a lieutenant colonel in the ROTC and captain of the "Scabbard and Blade." He was appointed to West Point by Sen. Joseph H. Guffey.

Secretary of War Patterson delivered the commencement address and congratulated the members of the class. Colonel Smith, adjutant of the post, awarded the diplomas.

The ten previous graduates at West Point are: Henry O. Flipper, '77; John H. Alexander, '87; Charles Young, '89; Benjamin O. Davis Jr., '36; James D. Fowler, '41; C. M. Davenport, '43; R. P. Tresville Jr., '43; H. Minton Francis, '44; E. J. Davis Jr., '45, and M. E. Rivers, '45.

Naval officers' training school, the Annapolis Naval Academy in Maryland.

No Negro has graduated from Annapolis and only five have attended, the last one entering being Wesley A. Brown of New York, who was nominated by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell and entered the school in June of last year. The other four resigned under pressure of discrimination, except George E. Trivers of Washington, D. C., who reportedly resigned because of ill health.

Although the other three were separated from the school because of deficient grades, it was the general belief that the discriminatory treatment given them was at the bottom of their resignations.

West Point Military Academy was established in 1802 and the authorized strength of its U. S. Cadet Corps is 2,496. Its cadets are all commissioned second lieutenants in various branches of the Army upon their graduation.

Cadets are appointed in the following manner:

Eight from each state at large, four from each Congressional District, four from each U. S. Territory, six from the District of Columbia, four natives of Puerto Rico, two from the Canal Zone, 172 from the United States at large, 180 from among the enlisted men of the Regular Army and from the National Guard, in number nearly equal as practicable.

Appointments to the academy are made only to fill vacancies as they may occur.

Each candidate must pass a rigid physical examination, and in addition, must pass an examination in mathematics, English, grammar, composition and literature, and United States History. Written examinations are sometimes waived when the candidate's high school or college record is high enough to warrant this action. *(See full page of pix on the West Point graduation in Fotoscope.)*

Four Negro Cadets Now At West Point

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The admittance early in July of two Negro cadets from the State of California brought to 30 the number of Negroes who have been accepted by the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, since July 1, 1870, the War Department reported today.

Seven Negro graduates of U. S. M. A. are now on duty with Army Air and Ground Forces. They are Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Air Corps, commanding officer of Lockborne Army Air Base, Columbus, Ohio; Major Clarence M. Davenport, Infantry Infantry Officer Replacement Pool, Fort McClellan, Alabama; Major James D. Fowler, infantry, 1322 Service Command Unit, Reception Station No. 3, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland.

First Lieutenant Henry M. Francis, infantry, Third Infantry Training Battalion, Fort McClellan, Alabama; First Lieutenant Ernest J. Davis, Jr., Air Corps, 99th Fighter Squadron, 477th Composite Group, Army Air Base, Ohio; First Lieutenant Mark E. Rivers, Jr., Signal Corps, 542nd Signal Heavy Construction Company, Manila, Philippine Islands; Second Lieutenant Andrew A. McCoy, Air Corps, 3020th Army Air Forces Base Unit, Williams Field, Chandler, Arizona.

One graduate, Captain Robert B. Tresville, Jr., of Buffalo, New York lost his life in World War II. He was reported missing in action with the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy June 22, 1944, and declared dead a year later.

Of the 30 certified for entrance, 11 have graduated with commissions as second lieutenants, one resigned, 14 were separated before graduation because of deficiencies, and four are undergraduates.

62a 1946

West Point

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat 6-22-46

GOOD LUCK, FELLA—David Carlisle, who left this week to report to West Point as the first Negro cadet from the far west, receives a gift from the hands of Jo Oliver, overseas veteran and president of the Cosmos club, composed of young ex-GI who grew up together and saw service in widely scattered parts of the world. Carlisle 19, was made an honorary member of the Cosmos club.

Cal. West Point Appointee Steeped in Army Tradition

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 7-20-46

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Stating that he was "elated" over being the 31st colored man appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point, Robert William Green, 18, of Oakland, Calif., said that he has no preference among the branches of services but "likes them all."

Mr. Green reported for duty at West Point recently after being appointed to the famed academy by Representative John H. Tolan, Democrat, of California. He is the son of John E. Green, retired lieutenant colonel of the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments.

A product of the Oakland high schools, Green graduated in the upper 15th of his class of 300 and, as regimental executive officer of the city's Reserve Officer's Training Unit, won a medal for being the most outstanding third-year ROTC student in Oakland.

Red Cross Lifeguard

A powerful swimmer and a Red Cross lifeguard, Green is 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighs 165 pounds but did not participate in athletics in high school.

Interviewed in Washington while en route to West Point, the new appointee proved to be a very modest young man, so reluctant to talk about himself that reporters found it necessary to call on his brother, Dr. John E. Green Jr., to give additional facts about his activities.

Stating that Robert had always liked military life, Dr. Green told how, as an admirer of his military father, young Green had joined the Boy Scouts and rapidly advanced to the grade of Eagle Scout.

ROBERT W. GREEN.

Attained Highest Scout Rank

After attaining the highest rank in scouting, Green became senior patrol leader of Troop 66, an integrated scout troop of Oakland, and was in line for the position of junior assistant scout master when news of his appointment came.

A brilliant student, his brother's favorite subjects are mathematics and science, Dr. Green revealed.

Roy. Garvin, business manager of the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN, is an uncle of the new officer candidate.

LIKES THE ARMY

ROBERT WILLIAM GREEN
Quiet, 18-year-old student of Oakland, Calif., recently arrived at the United States Military Academy at West Point. The 31st Negro to be admitted to the academy, he was appointed by Rep. John H. Tolan (Dem., Calif.).

31st Negro Appointed To West Point

The Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat 7-20-46

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The 31st Negro appointed to the United States Military Academy, Robert William Green, 18, of Oakland, Calif., reported for duty at West Point last week.

Green was appointed by Representative John H. Tolan (Dem., Calif.) following his graduation in the upper 15th of a class of 300 at an Oakland High School. As regimental executive officer of the city's Reserve Officer's Training Unit, he won a medal for being the most outstanding third-year ROTC student in Oakland.

Although he did not participate in high school athletics, Green is a powerful swimmer and a Red Cross lifeguard, standing 5 feet, 11 inches and weighing 165 pounds.

In an interview, Dr. John E. Green Jr., the appointee's brother, revealed that young Green was a youth leader in his community and had always leaned toward military life. Joining the Boy Scouts, Green rapidly advanced to the grade of Eagle Scout and became senior patrol leader of Troop 66, Oakland's mixed Scout unit.

Green is the son of John E. Green, retired lieutenant colonel of 24th and 25th Infantry regiments. James W. Smith of South Carolina was the first colored man to be admitted to West Point, entering the academy July 1, 1870.

To West Point

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

DAVID CARLISLE,
Sat 7-6-46
former Los Angeles reporter, who reported to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., this week. Carlisle, who is 19, is the first non-white cadet from the West Coast to enter the academy.

30 Negroes Enter West Point Since First In 1870

WASHINGTON—With the admission of the two California candidates in July the total number of Negroes admitted to the U.S. Military Academy since 1870 now numbers 30.

The two Californians admitted in early July were David K. Carlisle and Robert W. Green.

A breakdown by the War Department this week reveals that seven Negro graduates of the Academy are now on duty with Army Air and Ground Forces. Of the 30 who gained entrance to the academy, 11 graduated with 2nd lieutenants commissions, 14 failed to graduate and four are now undergraduates.

One graduate, Capt. Robert B. Tresville Jr., of Buffalo lost his life in World War II. A member of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, he was reported missing in action on June 22, 1944.

Taken by states Illinois has had the greatest number with nine while the next highest are South Carolina and Ohio with four and then Michigan with three. New York has had only two.

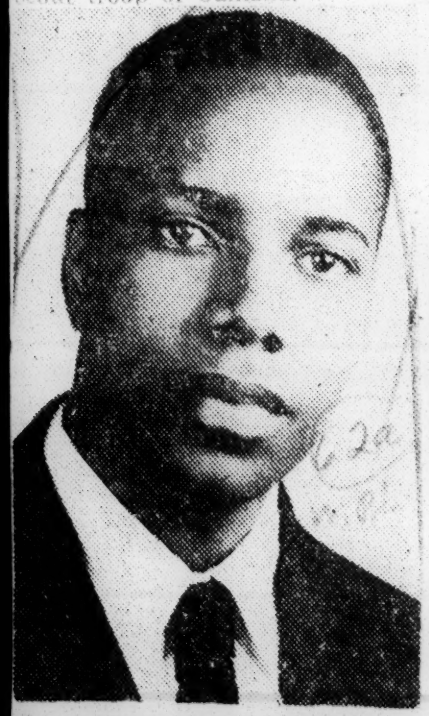
The seven Negro graduates now serving with the Army are Col. Benjamin O. Javis Jr., Lockbourne Air Base commander; Maj. Clarence M. Davenport, Infantry, Fort McClellan; Maj. James D. Fowler, Infantry at Fort George C. Meade; three 1st lieutenants, Ernest J. Davis Jr., Air Corps; Mark E. Rivers Jr., Signal Corps; and Henry M. Francis, Infantry; and 2nd Lt. Andrew A. McCoy, Air Corps.

Tri. 7-16-46

Cal. Eagle Scout Appointed to West Point

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Stating that he was "elated" over being appointed to the famed academy by Representative John H. Tolan, Democrat, of California, he is the son of John E. Green, retired lieutenant colonel of the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments.

Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth infantry regiments.



ROSCOE YOUNG JR.

N. Y. Youth Named to West Point

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Roscoe C. Young Jr., 18, of 948 Trinity Ave., Bronx, has been appointed to the West Point Military Academy by Rep. Benjamin J. Rabin of the 24th Congressional District, the AFRO learned last week. *Sat 12-21-46*

The candidate, a student at City College of New York and a former basketball, handball and track star at Morris High School, will take his preliminary tests at Governor's I sland on March 4 and will enter West Point in July.

He was selected from a list of 100 candidates for the appointment.

Hopes to Make Grade

"I feel very good about it," he told the AFRO. "and I hope to attain my best at West Point. I didn't know about my selection until recently."

A member of the Order of the Arrow and an Eagle Scout, Roscoe has served on the Council at Camp Ranachqua, Ten Mile River, for two years. He attended the James K. Paulding Junior High School in the Bronx and completed high school in three and a half years.

He explained that he is majoring in mathematics in college to prepare him for West Point.

A product of the Oakland high schools, Green graduated in the upper fifteenth of his class of 300 and, as regimental executive officer of the city's Reserve Officers' Training Unit, won a medal for being the most outstanding third-year ROTC student in Oakland.

A powerful swimmer and a Red Cross lifeguard, Green is five feet, eleven inches tall and weighs 185 pounds. He did not participate in athletics in high school.

Interviewed in Washington while en route to West Point, the new appointee proved to be a very modest and serious minded young man.

He was so reluctant to talk about himself that reporters found it necessary to call on his brother, Dr. John E. Green, Jr., to give additional facts about his activities.

Dr. Green, a recent graduate of the Howard University Medical school revealed that his brother has been a leader of youth in his community ever since he became of school age. *Pit. 7-19-46*

Stating that Robert had always liked military life, Dr. Green told how, as an admirer of his military father, young Green had joined the Boy Scouts and rapidly advanced to the grade of Eagle Scout.

Continuing his activities after attaining the highest rank in scouting, Green became senior patrol leader of Troop 66, an integrated scout troop of Oakland.

Assigned to Ohio

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

LT. ANDREW A. McCOY, of Pittsburgh, who was recently assigned to Lockbourne Army Air Base, Columbus. This brings to three the number of West Point graduates now based at the Ohio field. The two already on duty are Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, and Lt. Ernest Davis of Washington. *Sat.* *12-28-46*

Official AAF Photo

9,200 VA Hospital Beds For Colored

World Memphis, Tenn.
Fri. 11-1-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—President Truman and the Federal Board of Hospitalization have authorized the construction of thirteen new Veterans Administration Hospitals in eleven states, involving a total of 1,400 beds of which, under present VA policies, 9,200 will be available to colored veterans on an integrated basis.

Eleven of the new hospitals are to be located in states which do not segregate colored veterans. Two, to be located at Memphis, Tenn., and Marlin, Texas, will admit colored veterans, but will place them on segregated wards if the VA policy of "following the pattern of the community" is followed.

NEW MEXICO ADDITION

The President and the hospitalization board also approved the construction of a 250-bed addition to the present 259-bed general medical and surgical hospital at Alburquerque, New Mexico, for the treatment of veterans suffering from tuberculosis. Alburquerque formerly did not admit colored veterans but last November was issued orders to do so by Major General Paul R. Hawley, VA medical director. VA officials here, however, said they did not know whether this order has been followed.

Location of sites for the new hospitals and the number of beds to be available to veterans follow: Los Angeles 1000 beds; San Diego, 200 beds; San Francisco, 1,000 beds; Denver, 500 beds; Chicago, 1,000; Topeka, Kansas, 1,000; Boston, 1,000; New York City, 1,000; North Carolina area, 1,000; Cleveland, 1,000; Memphis, 1,000; Marlin, Texas, 200; Ann Arbor, Michigan, 500 beds.

Vets Buy Home For Negro Service Center In Indiana

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-12-46

EVANSVILLE, Ind.— Maintenance of a Negro Veterans' Service Center with a full-time duty officer to assist with all veterans' problems became possible last week with the purchase by Otis Stone Post of the American Legion of a 13-room house here.

As soon as sufficient funds are available the home will be fully equipped as a social and recreational center for Negro veterans of the entire Evansville area, according to Dr. Charles Rochelle, post commander.

The property, purchased for $10,000 cash, will be a permanent home for the post's 150 members and for the 90 members of its women's auxiliary. Funds for the purchase were raised by members themselves, through post-sponsored festivals and by the sale for $2,000 of another piece of veteran-owned property.

Tuskegee Vet Hospital Given Retraining Chief

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat. 9-21-46

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — William A. Clark, veteran of World War I and World War II, and a former member of the faculty of Tuskegee institute, has been appointed chief of the retraining section of the medical rehabiliation division at the Tuskegee Veterans Administration hospital.

Mr. Clark was recently released from the army with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He served as liaison officer of the fourth service command information and education division.

A graduate of Hampton institute, he has a master of education degree from Harvard and a master's degree in education from Yale. He joined the faculty of Tuskegee as professor of education, in which he has served continously except for periods of additional study and military service.

During World War I, Mr. Clark served for 16 months as a member of a combat intelligence group of the 368th infantry of the 92nd division. He was awarded the Silver Star for gallentry in action, the Purple Heart and the World War I Victory medal with two stars for the St. Mihiel and Meuse Argonne campaigns.

He returned to active duty as a captain in World War II in October, 1942, completing the special service officers' school at Ft. Meade, Md., and the school for personal services at Washington and Lee university Lexington, Va. He was recently awarded the Army Commendation ribbon for outstanding service within the contental limits of the United States during World War II. He also holds the Victory medal and the American Theater medal for World War II.

Statements of Mother of Vet, Doctor Refuted

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-16-46

Mt. Alto Officer Says Color Had Nothing to Do With Failure to Admit Deranged ex-GI

By JAMES L. HICKS

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The Veterans Administration, on Nov. 8, denied a charge by Mrs. Mabel David that her ill son, T. J. David, a veteran, had been refused admission to Mt. Alto Veterans' Hospital on Nov. 6, because he was colored.

Mt. Alto is a 332-bed hospital here with 45 beds set aside for colored veterans on a jim-crow ward.

According to Mrs. David, when her son, previously hospitalized for mental trouble, grew violently ill, she telephoned his doctor, Dr. Charles Prudhomme, who advised her to place him in Mt. Alto at once.

Excuse Given Mother

Mrs. Dvaid immediately called Mt. Alto and requested Dr. William J. Weaver, officer of the day, to send for her son. She charged that Dr. eWaver rudely told her he had no vacant beds for colored evterans at the hospital.

Under present VA policies, a VA hospital is required to set aside a certain number of "emergency" beds to permit immediate entry to veterans with service-connected disabilities, such as were David's.

After Dr. Weaver had denied her request for hospitalization of her son, Mrs. David said, she got in touch with Dr. Prudhomme, who, it was reported, was also turned down by Dr. Weaver, who suggested that the veteran be arrested and put in jail.

Veteran Actually Ill

The veteran was later found to be suffering an "acute psychotic episode," the mother said, adding that Dr. Weaver refused even to authorize an ambulance for the veteran and hung up the phone on Dr. Prudhomme.

The son was kept at home and was examined at a VA outpatient clinic on Nov. 7, where the above diagnosis was given. On the following day, VA officials denied that the question of the veteran's race had entered the picture at all.

They stated that the man had been denied admission to the hospital because neither he nor his hother would agree to sign a statement authorizing his admission to the hospital.

According to VA officials, Dr. Weaver first entered David's name on the log as a white person, but later changed it to colored. This, they stated, would indicate that race played no part in the matter.

Col. Tilden New Hospital Head

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Harvard Grad Takes Over Vets Facility

Sat. 7-13-46

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — Succeeding Col. Eugene H. Dibble Jr., former head of the veterans facility here for the past 10 years, Col. Toussaint T. Tilden was named manager of veterans' affairs at Tuskegee Veterans' Hospital, here recently.

Colonel Tilden, who formerly served as second in command of the hospital, is a graduate of Harvard University Medical School, and has been connected with the hospital since 1923. He is a specialist in the fields of electro-cardiagraphy, and neuropsychiatry. Married, and the father of four children, Colonel Tilden lives with his family in the village of Greenwood, just outside Tuskegee.

Colonel Dibble, retiring head of the institution, will return to his former position as head of the John A. Andrew Hospital at Tuskegee Institute. The medical center will be expanded under the building program being conducted at the school. Dr. John Chenault, who was serving as head of the John A. Andrew Hospital, will return to his former post as head of the infantile paralysis unit, a job which he carried on in addition to directing the medical center.

Upon retiring from the Veterans' Administration position, Colonel Dibble received letters of commendation from Gen. Omar N. Bradley, VA head, and John M. Slaton Jr., deputy administrator.

Colonel Tilden takes over an institution which has 2,000 patients, 1,200 employes, and operates on a $5,000,000 budget. It is considered one of the most important hospitals operated by the Veterans' Administration.

Col. Tildon New Head of Tuskegee Veterans Hospital

Saturday
Black Dispatch

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — Col. Toussaint T. Tilden, who was clinical director and second in command of the Veteran's facility located here, has been named manager of veterans affairs. Col. Tildon succeeds Col. Eugene H. Dibble Jr., who has headed the institution for the past 10 years and who resigned June 30 and has returned to his former post as medical director of John A. Andrew hospital at Tuskegee Institute.

Col. Tildon is a graduate of Harvard medical school. He had been connected with the hospital here since 1923. Following his graduation from medical school he specilized in electro-cardiagraphy and neuropsychiatry and gained an enviable reputation in the medical field in his specialties. He has frequently served as acting manager during the absence of Col. Dibble. Married and the father of four children, he resides in the village of Greenwood just outside Tuskegee Institute.

Sat.

Dr. Dibble will head the expended medical center at John A. Andrew hospital incident to the extensive building program just completed there. Dr. John Chenault, who has been serving as medical director of John Andrew, will return to his post as head of the Infantile Paralysis unit, a task which he had carried on in addition to the work in the general hospital.

7-27-46

Dr. Dibble was the recipient of warm letters of praise for his administration from Gen. Omar N. Bradley and Deputy Administrator John M. Slaton Jr., for the splendid efficiency which has characterized his administration.

Local Pattern Guides

Veterans' Hospitals Follow Segregation

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa Sat. 10-19-46

By JAMES L. HICKS, NNPA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In twelve Veterans Administration hospitals colored veterans are not admitted at all except in cases of emergency, and of 10,612 colored veterans hospitalized in other VA facilities as of Aug. 31, 4,379, or nearly 50 per cent, were receiving medical care under jim-crow conditions, a Veterans Administration report showed last Friday.

Of the 4,379 veterans hospitalized under jim-crow conditions in twenty-one VA hospitals located in sixteen States and the District of Columbia, 2,040 were being treated at the all-colored hospital at Tuskegee, Ala., the report disclosed.

LIST JIM-CROW SETUP

The twelve VA hospitals known to refuse admittance to colored veterans except in emergencies are located at Legion, Texas; Outwood, Ky.; Augusta, Ga.; Gulfport Miss.; Lexington, Ky.; Tuscaloosa Ala.; Amarillo, Tex.; Biloxi, Miss.; Fayettevile, Ark.; Montgomery Ala.; Reno, Nev.; and Atlanta, Ga.

Although the twenty-one hospitals admitting colored veterans under segregated conditions provide facilities for veterans in sixteen States and the District of Columbia, at present only 804 beds are unoccupied and available to additional colored veterans seeking hospitalization in those States. Two hundred sixteen of these unoccupied beds are at Tuskegee.

Under present VA policies when a colored veteran applies at a hospital having segregated facilities and no bed is available on the segregated ward he is placed on a "waiting list" and hospitalized only when a bed becomes vacant on that ward.

FOLLOW LOCAL PATTERN

While the present report does not indicate either an extension or a lessening of segregation in VA installations, actually the VA has extended segregation in some places.

In Army and Navy hospitals servicemen are not segregated by race, but when the VA takes over such a facility from the Army it immediately organizes the hospital "according to the pattern of the community."

The VA hospital at Louisville, Ky., as of August 31, had a total of sixty-eight colored veterans receiving treatment on segregated wards with nineteen jim-crow beds available but unoccupied. Two other hospitals in Kentucky, however, continue to refuse to admit colored veterans. They are located at Outwood and Lexington. In the States of Georgia and Mississippi colored veterans continued to be barred from VA hospitals.

RENO AN EXAMPLE

Another lack of progress in eliminating segregation in VA hospitals is seen in the hospital located at Reno, Nev.

A VA footnote to last year's report stated that although this hospital did not accept colored veterans, it had been ordered to do so at once by Major General Paul R. Hawley, VA medical director.

Women Control Purse Strings At Vet Hospital

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta Ga.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — As in many households, women control the purse strings at the Tuskegee Veterans Administration Hospital, the largest institution of its kind in the South and the sixth largest in the Nation. Fri. 7-5-46

The Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer at this 2,052-bed neuro-pschiatric hospital for Negroes are both women and, incidentally, both began their careers with the VA as stenographers.

They are Mrs. Raymond S. Dokes Finance Officer, and Mrs. Simon Walker, Assistant Finance Officer. With approximately 1,250 men and women on the payroll, Mrs. Dokes and Mrs. Walker handle an average monthly payroll exceeding $150,000. Fri. 7-5-46

MISSISSIPPI NATIVE

Dokes has been employed at the Tuskegee VA Hospital since shortly after its opening in 1923. After attending school in Memphis, Tennessee, she went to work with the VA as a stenographer in the Finance Division and learned every phase of the work by actual practice. She was appointed Finance Officer in October, 1936, and immediately before that had been serving as Disbursing Officer.

Mrs. Walker, a native of Tennessee, went to work with the VA immediately after her graduation from Tennessee State A. and I. College in Nashville, Tenn., and has been with the VA for 17 years. She was appointed Assistant Finance Officer in January, 1945.

The Tuskegee hospital was constructed in 1923. It originally was a 600-bed hospital with 300 beds for neuro-psychiatric patients and 300 beds for general medical, surgical and tubercular patients.

Enlarged several times since 1933, 2,052, all except 411 of which are the official bed capacity now is for neuro-psychiatric patients. The area served by the hospital includes the states of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi and Northern Louisiana

With Segregation Ended 57 Ex-GI's Have No Gripes

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-30-46

Share Quarters With Retired White Soldiers on Fourth Floor of the Old Soldiers' Home

By JAMES L. HICKS

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Once a soldier, always a soldier, is the living axiom of 57 colored warriors of bygone wars who now pass their hours here at the Old Soldiers' Home exchanging stories of Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders.

While the local branch of the NAACP, Nov. 22, sought to determine whether its letter of protest to the War Department against the segregation of the aged veterans in the basement of the Soldiers' Home had caused them to be moved to the top floor of the King's dormitory building, the old soldiers enjoyed their barrack life.

The NAACP protested to the War Department when it was reported that colored soldiers were living in the basement of the home. The protest was never answered; but the men were found occupying roomy and suitable quarters on the fourth floor, last Friday.

Ex-Texan Oldest Vet

Dean of the old soldiers at the home is 88-year-old ex-Sergeant George Williams who enlisted in Company A of the 25th Infantry Regiment at Fort Clark, Texas, in 1871, and who retired in 1901.

Top man on the top floor of King's dormitory is ex-top Sergeant Rufus Taylor who enlisted in the 25th Infantry, Feb. 2, 1901, and retired with 26 years of service Nov. 22, 1927.

When Sergeant Taylor enlisted in the regular Army in 1901, Colonel Charles Young was the Army's only colored officer. In 1902 at San Francisco he met a young colored lieutenant in command of H Troop of the 10th Cavalry. The lieutenant's name was Benjamin O. Davis.

Life Not Rigorous

The old timers are not plagued with the usual banes of the barrack soldiers. There is na reveille, no retreat, no close order drill, in fact, no formations of any kind. Sat. 11-30-46

There are now 1700 soldiers in the Old Soldiers' Home. As has been stated 57 of this number are colored men.

Ordinarily only those persons who have served 20 years as warrant officers or enlisted men in the Regular Army are eligible for admission, but exceptions are made in cases of war incurred disabilities. Service in the Navy, Marine Corps or as a commissioned officer cannot be counted.

Without cost to members, they are provided with accommodations in the barracks, given medical care, subsistence, dental and hospital care and furnished clothing, laundry and dry cleaning service.

Push Probe Of Tuskegee Facility

The World
Memphis, Tenn.
Tues. 12-31-46

The report of the investigation is now on the desk of R. G. Beers, personnel relations director at the VA's headquarters. The agency said last Monday it would not reopen the cast of Mr. Gadsen until formal charges against the VA or someone in the agency were brought by Mr. Gadsen through his attorney.

vestigation shows."

It was learned that early in January Mr. Gadsen, who was employed by the VA in Washington, was given a

By JAMES L. HICKS
(NNPA Staff Writer)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The Veterans Administration is seeking to suppressing the report of an investigation into charges of irregularities at its veterans' hospital at Tuskegee, Alabama, it was learned here last Monday.

Suppression of the report threatened to involve the agency in a lawsuit when Leon A. Ransom, attorney for Harold A. Gadsen, former utility trainee officer at Tuskegee, who informally brought charges against the hospital said the VA continued to refuse to make the report public he would be forced to "take such legal steps as are necessary to ascertain what the in-

GADSEN TRIP

In April, it was learned, Mr. Gadsen left Tuskegee and made a trip to VA headquarters here where he aired all his complaints against the hospital. The board which conducted the hearings recommended that his dismissal at Tuskegee be sustained, but that he be offered another job with the VA in Washington.

At Tuskegee, Mr. Gadsen was classed as a P-9, a job paying approximately $4,000 a year, which corresponds with a CAF-7 position in non-professional grades. He was offered a CAF-4 (clerical) job in the VA headquarters here. He refused the offer and retained Mr. Ransom as his attorney.

2,136 Medics On VA Payroll Include 45-Man Staff at Tuskegee Facility

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—General Omar N. Bradley said last week that the use of colored people in the Veterans' Administration was under study and that he personally favored their employment in veterans' facilities without regard to race.

Asked whether or not colored doctors would be more widely used in the Veterans Administration now that Civil Service regulations have been lifted, Gen. Bradley replied that the Veterans' Administration would hire any doctors who could meet the VA qualifications.

QUESTIONED ON NEGRO DOCTORS 2-9-46

He was then asked whether all colored doctors hired by the VA would be sent to Tuskegee as in the past, or would they be sent to work at other places where they are needed.

"I can't say where any doctor will be sent when he is hired," said Gen. Bradley. "I have told colored leaders that the use of colored people in the VA is now under study and that we favor using them in the organization the same as we use any other people."

CROWDED PRESS CONFERENCE 2-9-46

At a crowded press conference following a demand by John Stelle, national chairman of the American Legion, that he resign, Bradley revealed that the VA only had 2,136 doctors on its payroll. The agency is in need of 3,000 more, he said.

A recent survey showed that the Veterans' Administration employs only 45 colored doctors, all of whom are stationed in the all-colored hospital at Tuskegee, Ala.

for integration of colored medical personnel in veterans' hospitals, a spokesman for that organization said colored doctors applying for jobs at the Veterans' Administration were still being told they would have to work in segregated hospitals.

General Bradley has stated that the Veterans' Administration is in great need of medical personnel and that all doctors would be accepted on the basis of qualifications only.

Doctors Don't Apply

The result of the practice of the Veterans' Administration in assigning colored doctors to a segregated hospital, said the NMA spokesman, was that there has been no rush of colored doctors to the VA jobs.

One doctor applying for a position was told he would be sent to Waco, Texas, it was reported. The doctor refused the post.

All colored doctors now employed by the Va are on duty at the all-colored hospital at Tuskegee. Sat 2-16-46

A tendency toward integration of personnel, however, was noted here last week, when the Veterans' Administration announced the appointment of James B. Gibbs, 2711 Georgia Ave., N.W., as a psychiatric social worker. Gibbs will be assigned to a veterans' hospital in Chicago.

Gen. Hawley Hit for VA Practice

Sat 2-16-46

Keeps Colored Medics in Jim Crow Hospitals

Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The practice being followed by Major Gen. Paul R. Hawley, acting surgeon general of the Veterans' Administration, is in conflict with policy enunciated by Gen. Omar Bradley, administrator of Veterans' Affairs, it was revealed here last Friday.

Declaring that the National Association would continue to fight

Gen. Bradley Airs Use of More Negroes

New York, Amsterdam News

Declares Our Medics Will Soon Get Their Real Chance—'Maybe'

2-16-46

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—General Omar N. Bradley said last Friday that the use of Negroes in the Veterans Administration was under study and that he personally favored their employment in veterans' facilities without regard to race.

Asked whether or not Negro doctors would be more widely used in the Veterans Administration now that Civil Service regulations have been lifted, General Bradley replied that the Veterans Administration would hire any doctors who could meet the VA qualifications.

He was then asked the pointed question of whether all Negro doctors hired by the VA would be sent to Tuskegee as in the past, or would they be sent to work at other places where they are needed.

"I can't say where any doctor will be sent when he is hired," said General Bradley. "I have told colored leaders that the use of colored people in the VA is now under study and that we favor using them in the organization the same as we use any other people." 2-16-46

At a crowded press conference following a demand by John Stelle, national chairman of the American Legion, that he resign, Bradley revealed that the VA only had 2,136 doctors on its payroll. The agency is in need of 3,600 more, he said.

12 VA Hospitals Bar Minorities

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Except in cases of emergency, 12 Veterans' Administration hospitals will not admit colored veterans at all; and in 4,379 VA facilities, they are receiving care under jim-crow conditions, an administration report revealed last week.

The twelve VA hospitals known to refuse admittance to colored veterans are located at Legion, Tex.; Outwood, Ky.; Augusta, Ga.; Gulfport, Miss.; Lexington, Ky.; Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Amarillo, Tex.; Biloxi, Miss.; Fayetteville, Ark.; Montgomery, Ala.; Reno, Nev., and Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 10-26-46

Of the 4,379 veterans hospitalized under jim crow conditions in twenty-one VA hospitals located in 16 States and the District of Columbia, 2,040 were being treated at the all-colored hospital at Tuskegee, the report disclosed.

While the present report does not indicate either an extension or a lessening of segregation in VA installation, actually the VA has extended segregation in some places.

In Army and Navy hospitals service men are not segregated by race; but when the VA takes over such a facility from the Army it immediately organizes the hospital "according to the pattern of that community."

Medical Leaders Rap Plan For Jim Crow Veterans Hospital In South

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. Sat 3-30-46

By NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Prominent leaders took direct issue with the Veterans' Administration during the past week over the question of whether segregated hospitals would afford servicemen the best medical service, and at the same time give colored doctors an opportunity to progress.

Dr. W. Montague Cobb, professor of anatomy in the Howard Medical School rapped Dr. Paul R. Hawley, medical director of the Veterans' Administration for his proposed jim crow hospitalization.

Speaking for 188 members of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia—the first, oldest and largest medical society of colored doctors—Dr. Cobb condemned the policy of segregating colored veterans and doctors, and declared that the medical society, of which he is president, is unequivocally opposed to segregation of any kind.

"The excellence of a medical institution is dtermined by its institution is determined by its environment," Dr. Cobb said.

"To take the very best personnel and facilities and place them in a segregated hospital in Mississippi and expect them to maintain the degree of medical excellence a veteran should have, would be like moving the Harvard Medical School to the backwoods of Mississippi and expecting it to remain the same." Sat 3-30-46

NO COMPROMISE FOR BIAS

Emphasizing that there could be no compromise in his mind between segregation and integration, Dr. Cobb pointed out that whereas segregation of colored doctors and veterans only brought on more problems, integration, on the other hand, would solve its problems in VA hospitals just as it solved them in civilian hospitals.

"Experience has shown," said Dr. Cobb, "that where the head of an agency adopts a policy of integration and proceeds to put in into effect without fanfare, friction does not occur.

"The powers possessed by General Bradley and Dr. Hawley are more than enough to effect integration in VA hospitals."

PROMISED NO BIAS

The decision of the Veterans' Administration to extend segregation of patients and personnel in veterans' hospitals, Dr. Cobb recalled, was contrary to a promise Dr. Hawley made at a conference with representatives of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, the Medico-Chirurgical Society, and other organizations.

Dr. Hawley told this group that he would not promise to clarify the attitude of his organization respecting segregated veterans hospitals.

The Dental Association told Dr. Hawley in a conference March 6, it favored Mound Bayou as the site of a Jim Crow hospital if the Veterans' Administration had determined to build an all colored hospital in Mississippi.

Dr. Grady issued the following statement:

"When General Hawley was asked if he planned to establish more segregated hospitals he said he had definitely decided to put one in Tennessee and Mississippi. As to Mississippi he said he did not know whether it would be at Mound Bayou or McComb.

"We made it clear that we are unalterably opposed to this type of segregation for veterans, and suggested that emergency cases be flown to a better environment and those cases which were not emergency ones could be transferred by rail.

"I consider segregation the greatest stumbling block to a democratic form of government," Dr. Grady added, "and the endorsement of discrimination is a grave step backward."

POWELL ACTS

On Friday, March 22, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., New York, went into action against the VA's proposed biased move. Powell urged President Truman, Democratic Chairman Hannegan, and Veterans' Administrator Bradley not to alienate more Negro votes. In his communication he said:

"I am unalterably opposed to the VA's present plan to build a Veterans' Facility in Mississippi. Such a move is going to alienate many more Negroes as well as right-thinking white people. However, since the Administration is determined to go through with this project, I emphatically urge you to see that it is not built in McComb but that it is built in Mound Bayou.

"I have just received a letter from the most important leader in that vicinity, Dr. T. R. M. Howard, surgeon-in-chief of the Howard Clinic at Mound Bayou, who recently received a full-page cov-

erage in the February 23rd issue of THE SATURDAY EVENING POST. Dr. Howard writes, in part:

MCCOMB'S NEGRO CURFEW

'No city in Mississippi offers the educational, health and recreational facilities that Mound Bayou offers. And above all things, the staff personnel as well as the veterans and their families will be

free of petty insults here in Mound Bayou. On the other hand, Negroes must be off of the streets of downtown McComb by 10:00 p. m.

These soldiers have seen enough hell,—why stand by and see them pass through more?'

"I repeat,—I am unalterably opposed to the establishment of the proposed Veterans' Facility in Mississippi, but if you must go

Ignore Mound Bayou For Veterans' Hospital Site; McComb Chosen

(NNPA) — The Veterans Administ ration ended all controversy over the se lection of a site for the building of an all -colored hospital for veterans in Mississippi, when it announced last Tuesday that the hospital definitely will be built at McComb, Miss.

VA officials say that President Truman has not yet officially approved the site selected in McComb for the hospital, but expressed confidence that the location would meet with his approval. If the President should disapprove the present site, another site in McComb will be recommended for his approval, officials said.

According to the agency, the hospital will be of the general medical type and will cost approximately $2,490,721.

Officials explained that such a hospital will ordinarily require forty doctors, two dental officers, forty-five nurses, one psychiatrist and forty dietitians.

In addition, there will be a manager, with a staff of ten, three social workers, seven reconditioning workers, twelve medical clerks, fifteen special service workers and ten supply workers.

Eighty persons would be employed in the utility section; including guards, mechanics, laborers, janitors and telephone operators.

VA officials declined to say when work will be started on the project.

An all-colored town in Mississippi, Mound Bayou, had been advocated by citizens of that community and Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Democrat of New York, as a more suitable locality than McComb for disabled veterans.

It has been reliably reported that colored people are not permitted on the streets of McComb after 10 o'clock at night. Census figures of 1940 show McComb to have a population of 9,898.

What's Good For the Goose Is Good For The Gander

A fine picture of American "democracy" in action is presented this week with the government closing the Borden General hospital at Chickasha as a veterans facility because of the smallness of the town, and the suggestion by General Omar Bradley that a 1000-bed hospital be erected in Oklahoma City. In the same breath the Veterans Administration announces that a new hospital for Negroes will be erected in a little village at McComb, Mississippi.

According to Rand-McNally's latest world atlas, Chickasha has a population of 14,111, and McComb, Mississippi, trains with 9,898. Chickasha, a small town with almost fifteen thousand people in it, is not large enough to serve the needs of white soldiers, but McComb, Mississippi, is deemed adequate in size to serve the needs of black troopers. The Black Dispatch will not attempt to account for the crazy quirk in such mental, or shall we say moral, processes.

Congressman Jed Johnson, of Oklahoma, should be advised of this singular inconsistency of the Veterans Administration. We think the reason assigned for the closing of the hospital at Chickasha is sound. In a small village there are few doctors from which to constitute a staff, which after all forms the base of a good clinic or infirmary. Common sense would impose the thought that adequate hospital staffs could be provided in a large center rather than in a small one, and as pointed out, to continue operation of Borden General, physicians would have to daily commute from Oklahoma City.

But what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. Why place a Negro veterans hospital in a town extremely smaller than Chickasha? Why in the same moment would there be violent reverse in basic policy? When a black vet is sick, he is just as sick at a white vet, and needs the identical type of medical care necessary for the physical, mental and spiritual improvement as the white vet. It is difficult for one to peer through the thick fog of such unseemly thinking.

Thousands of Negro GIs are mental patients. They will not be as well disciplined as ordinary sufferers. Those suffering from mental deficiencies are quite often misunderstood, and yet the Veterans Administration, soberly, and with deliberation, decides to place a hospital for Negroes in a little village where race prejudice is rampant, and where they have a curfew bell at nine each night ordering Negroes off the streets. It looks as though that in a community where there is potential danger of Negroes being clubbed daily, there should be a surplus, instead of a lack in medical care.

The exercise of ordinary judgment would impose the thought (measured by the yardstick of the Chickasha incident) that a Negro veterans hospital, if located in the South, would be place in Atlanta, Memphis, St. Louis, Washington, or some locality where a large group of Negro physicians reside. It is indefensible to assume that reputable Negro physicians would risk their lives going into an uncivilized community where white people consider Negroes second-class citizens, and are willing to wreak vengeance upon any black man who seeks to exercise his constitutional rights.

It appears to the Black Dispatch that returning Negro soldiers should protest vigorously against this impending danger. The Veterans Administration usually takes advice and counsel from the American Legion, and we suspect the choice of this backwoods Mississippi village stems from a desire of the whites in this vicinity to profit from the spending power of the Negro GIs who will assemble there. Thus we find ruthless exploitation taking precedence over phyical rehabilitation.

VA To Place Twenty Six Hospitals In South

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Of seventy-six veterans hospitals to be constructed by 1948, twenty-six will be located in southern and border states, it was learned last Friday.

According to a detailed schedule of projects, submitted to the House Deficiency Appropriations Subcommittee by Gen. Omar N. Bradley, administrator of veterans affairs, three of these hospitals will be located in Mississippi, and one of these three on the schedule is the 200-bed Jim Crow hospital to be built at McComb.

Two In Miss.

One of the other two hospitals to be constructed in Mississippi will be located at Tupelo. The site for the other one in "southern Mississippi" has not yet been selected.

Representations made by the Veterans Administration to the White House appear to be at variance with data submitted to the House appropriations committee by General Bradley and upon which the Congress appropriated $331,452,804 for construction of 76 new hospitals.

David K. Niles, administrative assistant to President Truman, on June 19, wrote Rep. Adam C. Powell Jr., Democrat, of New York, as follows:

"I have your letter of June 13, addressed to the President, with reference to the reported construction of an all-Negro hospital at McComb, Miss.

"I am very appreciative of your help in this matter, and very sympathetic toward your approach to it.

"I have queried the Veterans Administration relative to the reported announcement, and I am informed that no such announcement has been authorized, made, or contemplated.

President To Be Informed

"You may be sure that the President will have the information contained in your letter very much in mind, if such a proposal should come to him for approval."

The schedule submitted to the House Deficiency Appropriations subcommittee by General Bradley on May 23 specifically mentioned McComb as the location of one of 76 hospitals for which General Bradley estimated that $341,250,031, in addition to the $331,452,814 already appropriated for their construction, was "the minimum of additional funds required to award contracts" for their construction.

The schedule described the McComb hospital as a 200-bed general medical hospital, for which an original estimate of $2,400,721 was submitted.

Many Protests

Following publication of a NNPA story that McComb had been definitely selected as the site for another all-colored veterans hospital, telgrams and letters of protest were sent to President Truman by Mr. Powell and Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The information was given the NNPA by an official source and was to the effect that the site had been submitted to President Truman for his approval, but if he disapproved it another site in McComb would be selected and resubmitted to him.

The telegram sent to the President and General Bradley by Mr. White also protested the location of hospitals in Mississippi or other southern states if local conditions make difficult or impossible establishment of integrated hospitals with respect to both patients and staff.

EDUCATION BOARD APPROVES CENTER

Favor Rehabilitation Unit at Augusta Hospital

RICHMOND, June 28 (AP).—The preliminary arrangements for taking thorities. The hospital is to be taken state bard of education approved over the hospital from the war asplans today for a proposed rehabil- sets administration by July 15, but itation center at Woodrow Wilson to the acquisition may be used for health purposes The board confirmed the appointment of F. B. Cale as state supervisor of agriculture education and approved a $140,000 literary fund loan to Fairfax county for Negro

Governor Tuck has expressed at Falls Church.

The tentative plan calls for the agreement with the plan for the use of approximately 700 beds for The names of Arthur J. Parr of the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped. The state has made use is acceptable to the federal au- Norfolk, and George W. Burton of.

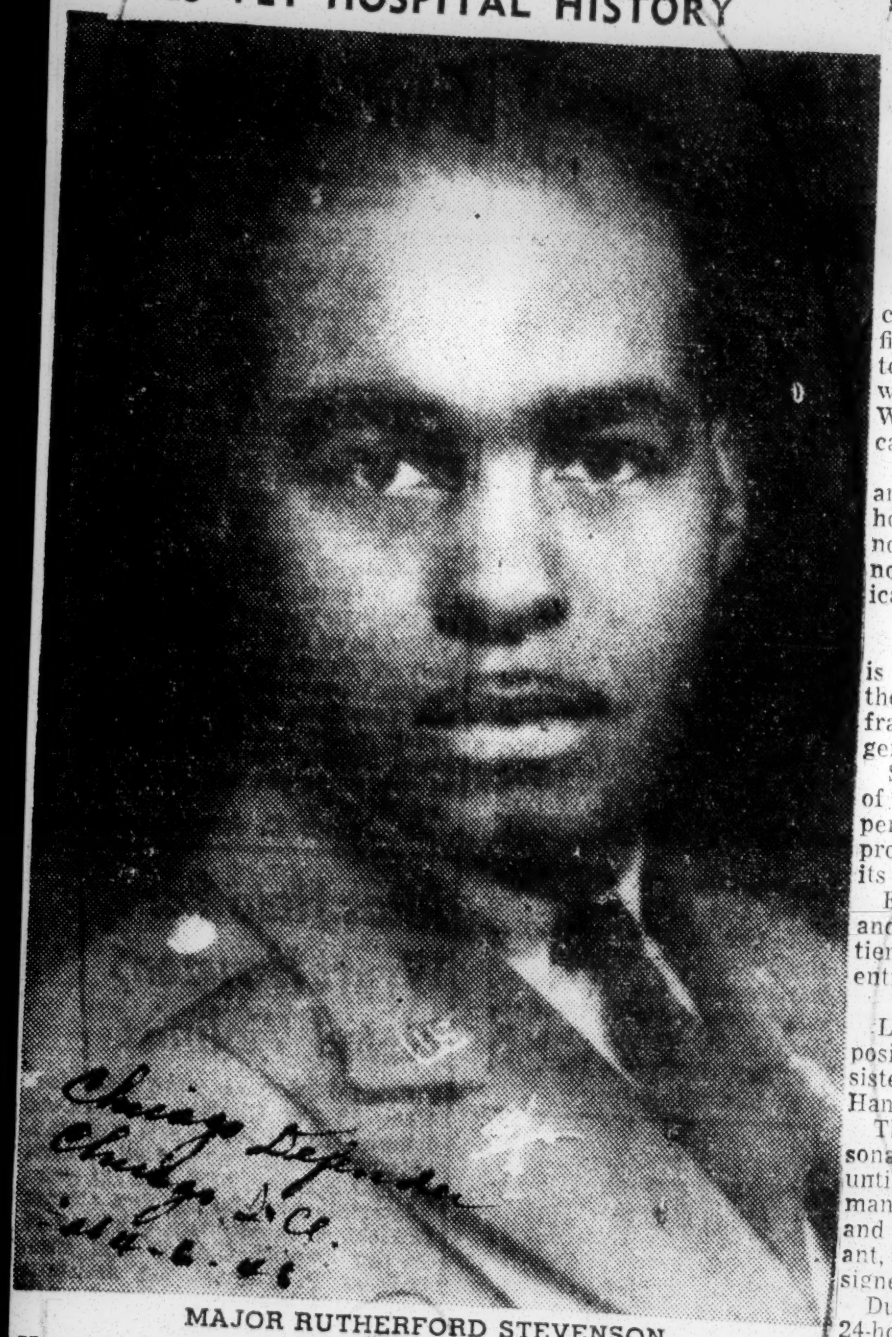
operate such a center.

Tuck Agrees

Governor Tuck has expressed school at Falls Church.

Martinsville were added to the list of those eligible for election as division superintendents of schools

MAKES VET HOSPITAL HISTORY



MAJOR RUTHERFORD STEVENSON

Veteran of more than five years' U.S. Army service, who has been appointed a Fellow in Menninger Foundation School of Psychiatry, Topeka, Kas., to become the first Negro psychiatrist integrated in a non-Jim Crow veterans hospital. A junior ward officer in Topeka's Winter General Hospital, Major Stevenson treats all patients, regardless of race. A graduate of Howard University, he was appointed upon the recommendation of Dr. Carl Menninger, internationally known psychiatrist and director of the Menninger Foundation.

Typical JC Setup Found at Hampton Veterans' Hospital

HAMPTON, Va.—In spite of protestations of administrators and the statement of 18 nurses that things are "very pleasant," the Veterans' Hospital here has a dyed-in-the-wool pattern of racial segregation. The entire third floor of the main hospital building is set aside for colored persons, the colored nurses serve only colored patients, but all doctors are white, and there is a neat little partition separating the colored side of the nurse's mess hall from that of the whites.

Separation Not 'Vicious'

Administrators contend, however, that there is nothing vicious about the racial separation at Kecoughtan and, with elastic grins and studied effort, it is pointed out that the good things about the setup here are the following:

1. Colored nurses comprise over 26% of the total nursing staff, the proportion being 18 to 50 whites;

2. Of the hospital's 14 "black band" or head nurses, nearly half (5) are colored, and,

3. Relations between the races are "amiable and pleasant."

Total 37% of Patients

The hospital has an official bed capacity of 535, but is currently filled beyond this figure to the extent of 585 bed patients, 37% of whom are colored—the ratio of World War I and World War II cases being about 50-50.

Orthopedic cases predominate among colored patients now in the hospital, with relative, though minor, incidence of surgical, eye, ear, nose and throat and general medical cases.

Turnover Every 6 Weeks

A complete turnover of patients is affected about every six weeks, the exceptions being cases of burn, fracture or complications in surgery.

Senior Head Nurse C. B. Oliver of Junction City, Knas., who supervises the segregated third floor, professes pride in the efficiency of its operation.

Except for the white physicians and surgeons who treat all patients alike, the wards are manned entirely by colored personnel.

Md. Man Chief Clerk

Lawrence Dennis of Port Deposit, Md., is chief ward clerk, assisted by Mrs. Margaret Bayton of Hampton.

The clothing room, where personal effects of patients are kept until time for their discharges, is managed by Miss Mature Chatman and William Watson, head attendant, has an 8- to 11-man crew assigned to general functions.

During the run of the average 24-hour, 3-shift work day, 14 attendants and 10 nurses serve the needs of the patients.

Elsewhere in the hospital key positions held by colored include those of morgue attendant, dental technician (3), barber and surgical attendant, with one young man serving as assistant pharmacist.

There are, of course, the usual porters, orderlies, cooks, maids and waitresses, the latter augmented with a few whites working in the nurse's dining hall.

Somehow, however, the whites never serve diners on the opposite side of the partition, though the colored waitresses do manage to get their fingers into the white nurses' soup.

Diners Separated

All patients use the same mess hall, a little aisle separating the one segregated table from the three set aside for whites. The movie is open to all without restrictions but the races sit apart.

Dr. N. G. Dewey, chief medical officer, to whom this correspondent talked in the absence of Col. Keith Ryna, director, expresses the opinion that conditions at the hospital are reasonably satisfactory and states that he has never heard any complaint against the status quo.

The group of nurses, who live off the reservation, also assert that their work is "very pleasant" and without friction.

It is thought in some quarters that colored doctors—civilian medics from nearby cities—may soon work in the hospital but this, in the words of a speaker who asked not to be identified, "is still in the formative stages."

'Tolerance' Believed Answer

One get the impression, after brief conversations with members of both groups here, that the whites are being extremely "tolerant" in every and the only sense of the word.

As Federal employees wedged into the awkward gap between Virginia's traditional prejudice and nearby Hampton Institute's frictionless transgression of racial lines, those in administrative positions seem to accept them, as Uncle Tom might say, "out of the goodness of their hearts."

Nurses now working in the hospital are:

F. N. Lee, Waco, Tex.; M. M. Randles, Decatur, Ill.; R. P. Weston, Birmingham, Ala., and L. C Lewis, Hampton, head nurses;

G. Taylor, Smithfield, Pa.; G. E. Williams, Greensboro, N.C.; A. P. Edmonds, Roanoke Rapids, Va.; A. M. Hobson, Poquason, Va.; H. H. Dantzler, Orangeburg, S.C.; A. M. Dolphy, Pittsburgh; I. Brodgon, Warren, O.; E. M. Holland, Atlanta, and M. E. Morris, P. V. Francis, M. M. Sexton, M. I. Cross and W M. Eley, all Hamptonians.

Estimated Co Of Addition Be $3,729,768

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)— The Veterans' Administration will soon construct an addition to its all-colored, neuro-psychiatric hospital at Tuskegee, Alabama, which will increase the capacity of the hospital by 164 beds, it was learned last Friday.

Estimated cost of the addition will be $3,729,768, the VA said. The 164 additional beds will raise the capacity of the Tuskegee hospital to 2,420.

At present, there are 1,994 colored veterans hospitalized at Tuskegee, of which 826 are veterans of World War II. Of this number 283 have service connected disabilities. The remaining 1,168 patients include veterans of World War I and medical dischargees from the peacetime army. There are 185 service-connected veterans in this group.

262-BED SURPLUS

Although Tuskegee must provide beds for colored veterans from Georgia, Mississippi and Kentucky, in which states they are barred from VA hospitals because of their color, the hospital now has a surplus of 262 vacant beds which are broken down as follows: fifty beds reserved for men on leave from the hospital; 138 beds reserved for new admissions to the hospital; and 74 beds reserved for use in any emergency.

Visit to Veterans' Hospital Proves JC Setup Unequal

Tubbs Finds Accepted Pattern at Hampton Revolting, Sees Hope in White Veterans

By VINCENT TUBBS
AFRO Staff Correspondent

HAMPTON, Va.—Those who are revolted by the Veterans' Administration's pretenses of satiating the demands for full equality by contending that GI's will receive adequate care in segregated hospitals are RIGHT.

Jim-crow hospitalization is ALL WRONG. It is un-American—in the strict sense of the term; and what's more, it gives too much ground in respect of the Dixie "tradition," which has made many continue in their ante-bellem ways.

My visit to the Veterans' Hospital here was impromptu and I rather feel that I definitely caught the administration offguard.

Great Guy—As Guys Go

I talked with Dr. N. G. Dewey, chief medical officer, as the big boss, Col. Keith Ryan, was in Richmond.

Dr. Dewey is a great guy—as guys go.

But, I'm still agreeing with the GI who said after studying the subtle prejudices of the English, the economic prejudices of the French and the caste prejudices of the Far Easterners—that "the white man at his best is no good."

Dewey is a near-Philadelphian and says he worked for eight years in the New York veterans' setup before coming into "rebel" country.

Little Difference—Dewey

He insists, in language very convincing (gestures, too) that he can't see any effective differences between the basic (medical) treatment given colored at Kecoughtan apart for just them.

Is That Democracy?

Grand! But, I ask you, is that democracy?

Granting that the pattern is "of the essence" of Dixie and the colored beds, eat at a nice table set aside all for them, have nurses assigned to just them and go to a theatre where a whole side is set

But, I don't believe that the most effective of the white South still are not so much inclined to be "traditional."

Effect of War

That, methinks, is a healthy sign.

Dewey, who was **upstate** before coming across the bay, say with conviction that the utilization of **veteran** white drivers on buses has served to reduce interracial friction. (Buses are places of close contact and the nurturing ground in respect of the Dixie "tradition," which has made many continue in their ante-bellem ways.

Need of Change

However, the sooner we get in to these quarters some nurses who aren't satisfied with segregation, giving—and giving all— the better the condition will be for

Opposing Tradition

The guys who have seen colored soldiers giving—and giving all— believe more strictly these ideals.

You want specific proof. Well, I don't believe that the most people who have seen spilled for the pre- American ideals is r and that they now strictly than ever in

the guy who did his all for the god of all.

Dewey admitted, in an off-the-record sort of way, that science has proved that there is no scientific basis for racial differences.

Denies Community Pressure

He also said the community exerts "no influence" on the policies of the hospital at Kecoughtan.

Now, the latter statement amounts to saying that, in spite of Virginia's racial separation laws, this Federal extra-territorial land is "beyond the vale."

Dewey feels that respect of law will take precedence over tradition if Washington lays it down.

No Difficulty Foreseen

Close-mouthed as his position makes him, he admitted that he could foresee no professional difficulties if colored doctors were officially assigned to Kecoughtan "because science has debunked race theories."

The South is getting conscience stricken.

The colored doctors whooping and hollering about the un-American and undemocratic inferences of jim-crow hospitals in the South for the GI's whose blood ran as rich and red as anybody's on Okinawa or in the Rhine Valley have but to keep hollering.

Foreign Trained Medics Barred From VA Program

Dispatch

NEW YORK—Veterans Administration officials here ruled that doctors who studied in foreign universities will be ineligible for resident-type training under the recently announced plan to prepare 1,000 physicians as specialists, for work in veterans hospitals.

The Mayor's Committee on Unity have charged that many students are forced to study in Europe, because of racial and religious quotas in schools accredited by the American Medical Association. A local newspaper examined application forms of 24 graduates of foreign schools, who sought training under the program. Without exception, they had names commonly identified with racial and religious groups here.

Officials of the VA paradoxically defended the restrictive program as the only means of obtaining the best medical care for veterans.

Jim Crow Hospitals Add To 'Comfort Of Negro Vets, Says Gen. Bradley

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—In attempting to justify to Rep. Adam C. Powell, (D., N. Y.), race segregation of patients in veterans' hospitals, letters of Gen. Omar N. Bradley, administrator of Veterans' Affairs, become more absurd with each one he signs.

Colored patients are segregated in some hospitals for the purpose of "adding to the comfort and security of the great majority of our Negro patients," he tells Powell in his latest communique on the subject of race discrimination and segregation. Sat 2-23-46

General Bradley had previously informed the Harlem Congressman that the Veterans' Administration's hospitalization policy is based on the Constitution of the United States, which forbids discrimination on account of race, color or creed, but that it was necessary to deviate from this policy in many communities where its enforcement would result in conflict.

Says Negroes Want Jim Crow

In his latest letter to Powell, General Bradley said:

"I should like to say that the practice of acknowledging geographical difficulties in the question of segregation or non-segregation of Negro patients does not stem from a desire to perpetuate the practice of segregation nor is it out of deference to the wishes of non-veterans.

"It is my belief that if a veteran is to recover from his illness or injury he should be protected from any situation or mental condition which might presumably retard his recovery. This policy is applicable, of course, to both Negro and white patients and affects both in their relationships with one another.

"In protecting the interests of all our patients, we feel that we are following a practice that the great majority of Negro patients, while not desiring such a policy to be perpetuated indefinitely, feel is their best interest at the present time.

Adding Comfort

"While I am not familiar with the practice in all Army hospitals I do know that segregation was practiced in some Army hospitals in certain parts of the country.

"In segregating Negro patients in a few hospitals, we are not discriminating because of race, creed, or color. Rather, we are adding to the comfort and security of the great majority of our Negro patients."

Previously, General Bradley had informed Powell that the Veterans' Administration was working on the premise that its expanded hospital program will provide adequate facilities for all veterans, regardless of race, color or creed but he would not indicate how each hospital was to be employed.

Vets' Care Promised

"You will recognize, I am sure that hospital construction is predicated upon the future needs of all veterans for medical treatment," he stated. "As yet, it is too early to determine specific allocations on the number of beds available to Negro veterans.

"Such allocations will depend in part upon the order in which hospitals are completed, upon the successful operation of our new medical plan, and upon such veteran population shifts as may result in the next few years.

"When construction is completed and allocations made on the then existing needs, you may be assured that sufficient facilities will be available for the superior treatment of all veterans eligible under the law. Sat 2-23-46

"As a commander of American troops in the field, I asked for and was rewarded with superb performance against the enemy without special consideration for the race, color, creed, or national antecedents of the men.

"As administrator of Veterans' Affairs, I shall seek to provide fairly and impartially for all who have served their country the benefits and privileges Congress has intended they be given."

Meanwhile, the Veterans Administration this week announced the start of "the most gigantic hospital building program in the history of the world," to provide war veterans with 183 new and permanent hospitals in 39 states, equipped with 151,500 beds. The cost of the program is put at approximately $448,000,000.

Of the 183 new hospitals, 105 will be for general medicine and surgery, 49 for neuro-psychiatric cases, and 29 for tuberculosis.

These hospitals are intended to increase the bed capacity for war veterans which under a prior recent survey in southern states indicated one bed for 187 whites, and one bed for 199 Negroes.

Watch Mt. Alto Sat 2-23-46

High on the list for which early construction is planned is the Mt. Alto Hospital here. Sources close to VA attest that the new unit, an expansion of the existing facility, will be operated on an integrated basis.

Negroes throughout the country have adopted a wait-and-see attitude, with the feeling that the pattern set at Mt. Alto located as it is in a borderline section of the country, will be repeated elsewhere throughout VA facilities in comparable locations.

Under the revised plans, hospitals, wherever possible will be built close to medical schools and centers, where doctors and other professional people can be brought into part-time association with the Veterans Administration's program for giving veterans medical service "second to none."

Protest Segregation

Sixty-three Class A medical schools, according to VA have pledged to supply consultants, visiting staffs and residents in hospitals located near schools. Seventy-seven schools have set up "dean's committees" to aid the VA, but not all are close enough to hospitals to give practical cooperation.

Early last Fall, a committee representing the National Medical Association, the NAACP, the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, and other groups, opposed the plan for Negro medical schools on the grounds that it would only serve to extend and make permanent the existing pattern of racial segregation in VA facilities.

The committee pointed out its willingness to assist in expanding VA facilities and providing improved services for all veterans, but made clear that so long as Negro medical students were relegated predominantly to training and opportunity to two medical schools, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn., and Howard University School of Medicine, here, they failed to see how the condition of segregation would be eliminated thereby.

They recommended the opening of all medical schools to all qualified students. Such an arrangement would make possible the utilization of Negro and white physicians and other professional people in any facility, since obviously integrated medical schools located continguous to VA facilities would serve such facilities on an integrated basis.

On the other hand, to encourage the construction of a hospital contiguous to medical schools as they are constituted, would simply mean a Negro medical school serving Negro patients in either an all-Negro VA hospital, or a Negro wing in a hospital used for both Negroes and whites.

This week, the CIO United Federal Workers, through their vice-president, Thomas Richardson, protested to the VA the omission of top Negro specialists in the area from the group of consulting specialists named to serve the Mt. Alto Veterans Hospital.

Information coming out of VA attests that Dr. John K. Lawler, dean of the Howard University School of Medicine, was invited to serve as consultant at the Mt. Alto facility, and the invitation would be re-extended.

Tuskegee To Get Hospital Annex

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Addition For Vets To Cost $3,729,780

Sat. 2-11-46

WASHINGTON—(NNPA) — The Veterans' Administration will soon construct an addition to its all-colored, neuro-psychiatric hospital at Tuskegee, Ala., which will increase the capacity of the hospital by 164 beds, it was learned last Friday.

Estimated cost of the addition will be $3,729,768, the VA said. The 164 additional beds will raise the capacity of the Tuskegee Hospital to 2,420.

At present, there are 1,994 colored veterans hospitalized at Tuskegee, of which 826 are veterans of World War II. Of this number 283 have service connected disabilities. The remaining 1,168 patients include veterans of World War I and medical dischargees from the peacetime army.

Although Tuskegee must provide beds for colored veterans from Georgia, Mississippi and Kentucky, in which states they are barred from VA hospitals because of their color, the hospital now has a surplus of 262 vacant beds which are broken down as follows: fifty beds reserved for men on leave from the hospital; 138 beds reserved for new admissions to the hospitals; and 74 beds reserved for use in any emergency.

VA officials, however, in explaining the additional 164 beds, said that the number of veterans receiving hospital care will gradually increase until the peak is reached about the year 1975. At that time, the agency estimates 250,000 veterans will be receiving hospital care. Sat. 5-11-46

At present, 85,727 veterans are in hospitals over the nation with 75,386 in VA hospitals. The remaining 10,341 are in other civil and state institutions, including army and navy hospitals.

In reply to a question as to whether another all-colored hospital would be built at McComb, Miss., the VA said the site for the hospital at McComb had been inspected but that President Truman has not yet approved the location.

Officials explained that such a hospital will ordinarily require 40 doctors, two dental officers, 45 nurses, one psychiatrist and 40 dietitians.

In addition, there will be a manager, with a staff of ten, three social workers, seven reconditioning workers, twelve medical clerks, fifteen special service workers and ten supply workers, officials said.

According to the agency, the hospital will be of the general medical type and will cost approximately $2,490,721.

Eighty persons would be employed in the utility section, including guards, mechanics, laborers, janitors, and telephone operators.

Vet Hospital Site Decided

To Be Built At McComb, Miss.

The Veterans Administration ended all controversy over the selection of a site for the building of an all-colored hospital for veterans in Mississippi, when it announced last Tuesday that the hospital would be built at McComb, Miss.

An all-colored town in Mississippi, Mound Bayou, had been advocated by citizens of that community and Representative Adam Clayton Powell, of New York, as a more suitable locality for disabled veterans. If the president should disapprove the present site another site in McComb will be recommended for his approval, officials said.

According to the agency, the hospital will be of the general medical type and will cost approximately $2,490,721.

Eighty persons would be employed in the utility section, including guards, mechanics, laborers, janitors, and telephone operators.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Officials explained that such a hospital will ordinarily require 40 doctors, two dental officers, 45 nurses, one psychiatrist and 40 dietitians.

In addition, there will be a manager, with a staff of ten, three social workers, seven reconditioning workers, twelve medical clerks, fifteen special service workers and ten supply workers. Retail

Eighty persons would be employed in the utility section, including guards, mechanics, laborers, janitors, and telephone operators.

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 12-7-46

VA MEDICAL STUDENTS—Studying together in the medical library at the Veterans Administration, Bronx Hospital are, left to right, seated: Portia Dugger of Boston, Mass.; Frances Terry of Greenville, S. C., and Barbara Alexander of Detroit, Mich. Marie Wetja (standing) is chief of training. Miss Dugger is sister of the famed Tufts College track star, Eddie Dugger. Student dietitians are admitted for one year's study with the agreement to spend one year with the Veterans Administration. All applicants must be college graduates.

Old Soldiers Get New Rooms To Swap Tales Of Other Wars

Defender
Chicago, Ill

WASHINGTON—Fifty-seven old Negro soldiers, brought out of their basement rooms in the Old Soldiers' Home last week, now have roomy, suitable quarters in which to swap tales of Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders and recall a young paymaster at Fort Clark, Tex., named Douglas MacArthur.

While the local branch of the NAACP sought to determine whether its letter of protest to the War Department had caused the aged Negro warriors to be moved to the top floor of King's dormitory, the old soldiers enjoyed their barrack life.

The NAACP received no answer when they protested that colored soldiers were living in the basement of the home, but the men were later found occupying roomy and suitable quarters on the fourth floor which they share with six white ex-soldiers under the supervision of a Negro former first sergeant.

Sat. 12-7-46

Dean of Old Timers

Dean of the old soldiers at the home is 88-year-old Ex-sergeant George Williams, who enlisted in Company A of the 25th Infantry Regiment at Fort Clark, Texas, in 1871, and who retired in 1910, the year President McKinley was assassinated.

Born in Franklin, Tenn., "on the Duck River," Sergeant Anderson was one of the first American Negroes in Cuba during the Spanish-American War in 1898. He served with the first division, second brigade in the Fifth Army Corps under Teddy Roosevelt, whom he remembers well.

Light of step and keen on remembering dates, he takes great pride in telling how, as a member of the famed Tenth Cavalry, his unit was called up to reinforce Roosevelt's Rough Riders June 24, 1898.

Top man on the top floor of King's dormitory is Ex-top Sergeant Rufus Taylor who enlisted in the 25th Infantry, Feb. 2, 1901, and retired with 26 years of service Nov. 22, 1927.

'Lieut." Davis

When Sergeant Taylor enlisted in the regular army in 1901, Col. Charles Young was the army's only colored officer. In 1902 at San Francisco he met a young Negro second lieutenant in command of H Troop of the Tenth Cavalry. The lieutenant's name was Benjamin O. Davis.

According to Sgt. Taylor, his "boys" at the old soldiers home are the same as any other soldiers the world over. As residents of the home they are subject to the articles of war the same as soldiers on active duty, and are punished with KP and thrown in the guard house for offenses just as any 21-year-old buck private.

The old timers, however, are not plagued with the usual bans of the barrack soldier. There is no reveille, no retreat, no close order drill, in fact, no formations of any kind. Maj. Gen. H. K. Loughry, governor of the home, makes a periodic inspection of the quarters, and Sgt. Taylor, as floor sergeant, is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the men on the floor keep it in "apple-pie order" but the old "spit and polish" air of the Regular Army is missing.

Dismissed Employee Has Attorney Threaten Suit

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Says He Was Fired Because He Disclosed Facts About Institution to Top Officials

Sat. 1-4-47

By JAMES L. HICKS

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The Veterans Administration is suppressing the report of an investigation into charges of irregularities at its veteran's hospital at Tuskegee, Ala., it was learned here last Monday.

Suppression of the report threatened to involve the agency in a lawsuit instigated by Leon A. Ransom, attorney for Harold A. Gadsen, former utility trainee officer at Tuskegee.

Mr. Ransom informally brought the charges against the hospital, saying if the VA continued to refuse to make the report, he would be forced to "take such legal steps as are necessary to ascertain what the investigation shows."

Probe Demanded

It was learned that early in January, Mr. Gadsen, who was employed by the VA in Washington, was sent to the Tuskegee Hospital as a trainee for the job of utility officer there.

In April, Mr. Gadsen left Tuskegee and made a trip to VA headquarters here, where he informed top VA officials that all was not well at Tuskegee.

Mr. Gadsen, it was learned, was careful not to make specific charges against any official at the hospital, but urged an investigation by top VA officials.

Fired on Return

Upon his return to Tuskegee, Mr. Gadsen was permitted to resume his duties for a short time and was then fired. The reasons given for his dismissal were that he was incompetent and inefficient.

He then returned to Washington and indicated to VA officials here that he felt that his dismissal was the result of informaion he had given the agency on his previous trip to Washington.

On Aug. 14, Mr. Gadsen was given a hearing at VA headquarters, where he aired all his complaints against the hospital.

Reinstatement Sought

The board which conducted the hearings recommended that his dismissal at Tuskegee be sustained, but that he be offered another job with the VA in Washington.

At Tuskegee, Mr. Gadsen was classed at a P-9, a job paying approximately $4,000 a year, which corresponds with a CAF-7 position in the non-professional grades.

He was offered a CAF-4 (clerical) job in the VA headquarters here. He refused the offer and retained Mr. Ransom as his attorney.

Case to Be Reopened

The report of the investigation is now on the desk of R. G. Beers, personnel relations director at the VA's headquarters.

The agency said last Monday it would not reopen the case of Mr. Gadsen until formal charges against the VA or someone in the agency were brought by Mr. Gadsen through his attorney.

Tuskegee Hospital Named For V. A. Center

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Designation of the Veterans Administration Hospital at Tuskegee as one of the nine VA centers for the instruction of blind veterans brings into focus work with blind veterans which was started at the hospital here in 1934.

Col. Eugene H. Dibble, Jr., Manager of the Tuskegee VA Hospital, said that under the expanded program "it is anticipated that our blind patients will be taught many new crafts and skills involving the use of the hands and hand tools and, in addition, the use of Braille typewriters and similar machines, whereby they may be enabled to earn a living for themselves and their dependents."

Purpose of the program, Colonel Dibble added, is to make blind veterans competent and self-reliant workers as well as to effect their psychological, social and physical rehabilitation.

Miles A. Glenn has been assigned to duty as orientation instructor and counselor for the blind. This work has been carried on since 1934 by Mrs. S. P. Delaney, Chief Librarian.

In the department for the blind veterans are being taught Braille and Moon Point and other forms of punctographic writing. In addition, instruction is given in the use of "talking books" and the care of the machines; writing with a pencil on corrugated boards; how to walk without personal assistance; how to recognize individuals by voice and by footsteps; and personal hygiene.

The hospital has accumulated a large collection of Braille and Moon Point books and magazines which are circulated among the blind patients. "Talking books" are placed on the wards where the blind patients are housed.

This work, Colonel Dibble said, has shown great progress since the days following World War I when the special care for blind veterans consisted principally of measures designed to protect their physical health, to brighten their spiritual and mental outlook, and to teach them how to care for themselves.

7,503 VETS IN HOSPITALS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(NNPA)—According to the annual report of the Veterans' Administrator for the fiscal year ended June 30, of the 71,229 veterans in veterans' hospitals on that date, 7,503 were colored. Of the 755 women veterans, nineteen were colored.

Bradley Upholds Jim-Crow Policy

NEW YORK.—Declaring that the segregation of patients in veterans' hospitals adds "to the comfort and security of the great majority of our colored patients," Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Veterans' Administration head, in a letter to Norman A. Williams, chairman of the Veterans' Committee of Local 118 of the United Federal Workers of America, last week claimed that such practices did not constitute discrimination.

Mr. Williams had written Gen. Bradley about the jim crow policies carried out in hospitals, and he received the following reply from the Veterans' Administration Chief:

"Your comments have been noted and you may be assured that the Veterans' Administration is giving thoughtful consideration to these and all other problems arising under laws administered by it.

"You may be assured further that the Veterans Administration will endeavor to resolve all issues presented to it to accomplish the purpose of legislation enacted for the benefit of veterans and to promote their welfare.

For "Good" of Veterans

"I should like to say," he continued, "that the practice of acknowledging geographical difficulties in the question of segregation or non-segregation of colored patients does not stem from a desire to perpetuate the practice of segregation nor is it out of deference to the wishes of non-veterans.

"It is my belief that if a veteran is to recover from his illness or injury, he should be protected from any situation or mental condition which might preumable retard his recovery.

"This policy is applicable, of course, to both colored and white patients and affects both in their relationships with one another. In protecting the interests of all our patients, we feel that we are following a practice that the great majority of colored patients, while not desiring such a policy to be perpetuated indefinitely, feel is their best interest at the present time.

Adds to Their "Comfort"

"In segregating colored patients in a few hospitals, we are not discriminating because of race, creed or color. Rather, we are adding to the comfort and security of the great majority of our colored patients."

This letter, Williams said, constitutes the most complete whitewash of discriminatory practices at work in the Veterans' Administration up to date.

VA Will Give Negro Doctors Own Hospitals

By Sam Stavisky
Post Reporter

Veterans Administration plans to continue segregation of patients, but is taking steps to broaden opportunities in VA hospitals for Negro physicians.

Another hospital, and perhaps two, will be added to the existing Negro veterans' hospital at Tuskegee, Ala., to be staffed entirely by Negro medical personnel. Similarly, VA is studying the possibility of staffing the Negro sections of some 24 hospitals with Negro doctors and attendants.

"Frankly," declared Dr. Paul R. Hawley, VA medical director yesterday, "I see no other way of giving Negro physicians a chance to practice in VA hospitals and thus advance themselves professionally.

Second Hospital Authorized

"Our job is providing the best available medical attention for veterans. We are in no position to get involved in social problems."

Already a second all-Negro hospital is authorized for Macomb, Miss., and a third is being considered for Nashville, Tenn., to be staffed in conjunction with Meharry Medical School, one of the Nation's two Negro Grade A medical institutions.

The other Grade A Medical school is at Howard University here. A few days ago, Howard U. was invited to join Georgetown and George Washington U. medical schools on the deans committee which is setting up standards and making placements at the Mount Alto veterans hospital.

Broadening Opportunity Seen

As a result of this action, it is expected that Negro patients at Mount Alto, now treated by white doctors, will soon by cared for by Negro resident and consultant physicians.

"We are faced with the fact that segregation is still necessary in certain parts of the United States," said Dr. Hawley. "In a sense, employing Negro doctors for Negro wards now handled by white physicians will be extending segregation. On the other hand, such a step will give Negro medical schools and doctors the opportunity to progress, now denied them virtually altogether by social conditions."

Ask End of Jimcrow in Veterans' Hospital

CHICAGO.—A demand that jimcrow be kept out of Vaughan General Hospital was raised here this week by the South Side branch of American Youth for Democracy.

Co-chairmen of the AYD Club, Leon Gurley and Eleanor Thorberg made public a letter sent to Veterans Administration asking for their policy since the hospital is being turned over this agency.

Under army administration, Vaughan General Hospital has been interracial.

Poll Cites Indecision On Jim Crow Hospitals In Area

Chicago—Most Negroes are undecided on the question of whether to accept Jim Crow hospitals in the South.

Canvassed in the Negro Digest Poll for March, a broad cross-section of the colored population was found to be at odds on the question while the number who are not decided one way or another outnumber both pros and antis on the problem. The recent controversy in the Negro press and among Negro organizations as to whether Jim Crow veterans hospital in the South should be accepted rather than no hospitals at all has evidently still left public opinion unresolved.

The question asked a sampling of a typical Negro group was "Should Negroes Accept Jim Crow Hospitals?" The results:

	Yes	No	Undecided
North	28%	33%	39%
West	27%	30%	43%
South	41%	19%	40%

Totals for the entire poll showed:

Yes	34%
No	28%
Undecided	38%

First Negro Medic Named to VA Hospital

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Dr. Rutherford B. Stevens has been appointed resident psychiatrist at the Winter General Hospital, Topeka, Kan., the Veterans Administration announced Monday.

Dr. Stevens, 34, is the first Negro physician appointed to the staff of a veterans' hospital not exclusively for colored.

Report 7,503 Negro Vets Hospitalized

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—According to the annual report of the Veterans' Administrator for the fiscal year ended June 30, of the 71,229 veterans in veterans' hospitals on that date, 7,503 were colored. Of the 755 women veterans, 19 were colored.

Negroes Kept in Quarters In City Slated for Ill Vets

The mayor of Mound Bayou, Miss., all-Negro town, cannot understand why the Veterans Administration insists upon building a veterans' hospital for Negroes in McComb City, Miss., one of the most prejudiced towns in the state, he asserted in a letter to Congressman Adam Clayton Powell last week. If a hospital is to be built for Negro veterans in Mississippi, Mayor B. C. Green wrote, his town would be the most logical place.

In McComb City, he said, Negroes are placed in "quarters" and not permitted to enter the business section after 9 pm, unless on business for white people. No representative Negroes live there, he said, and two Negro soldiers were shot and killed in that town for no reason except that whites resented their being in uniform. "Nothing was though about it." Mayor Green wrote, "except that there were two dead 'niggers'."

He thanked Powell for his statement against the placing of the veterans' facilities in McComb City, and declared that if it should be built there, "it should be over the united protest of Negroes who have a spark of decency left."

Davis Makes Memorial Day Talk In Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE, ALA., May 30.—Hope for fulfillment of the aims for which World War II were fought was expressed today by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, representatives of the people and throughout the world." only Negro regular Army general and veteran of 48 years' military service, in an address at Memorial Day service at the Tuskegee Veterans Administration Hospital.

"We have a right to expect," to us who survive, the pendents of those who fell, and est of its kind in the south and the General Davis said, "that the Freedoms here in our homeland, by Negroes, i

Trouble at Tuskegee

...was introduced ...H. Dibble, Jr., bl... VA Hospital, ...gest of its kind ... the sixth larg... the nation. A ...oes, it is staffed ...

...ed off of the Tuskegee Veterans ...laundry had to suspend operations temporarily when enough patients could not be used.

...ppointed to the lid ...formation, it got so bad that the ...

...ers' Hospital. Rumors tell how ...tions ...psycopathic patients who consti... The Veterans' Administration is ...ute the bulk of those being treated ...reported to be probing this and ...other irregularities.

...surprised ...

...eration expenses. Incidentally, the laborers around the hospital area are robbed of earnings which they should get.

At one time, according to information, it got so bad that the laundry had to suspend operations temporarily when enough patients could not be used.

The Veterans' Administration is reported to be probing this and other irregularities.

As a result, the authorities can save thousands of dollars in op-

Dentists Ask Mound Bayou As Vet Hospital Site

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The National Dental Association is urging the Veterans' Administration to build its second Jim Crow veterans' hospital at Mound Bayou, an all-colored town in Mississippi, instead of McComb, if it must build another Jim Crow facility.

In a conference held here recently with Dr. Paul R. Hawley, chief medical director of the Veterans' Administration, the dentists declared a Jim Crow hospital in McComb would increase friction between the races because of the higher pay hospital employees would receive in comparison with local whites.

They said the salary of $6,500 of the manager would be larger than that of any white person in McComb, and the basic salary of $1,080 of hospital charwomen would exceed that of most white persons in the city.

Recommendations Made

It was indicated that convalescent veterans on pass from the hospital would not even be allowed to sit in the city's square.

Led by Dr. William T. Grady, chairman of the Association's post-war planning committee, the group recommended that a qualified colored dentist be placed on all state advisory committees, that qualified colored dentists be appointed as consultants and specialists, and that private dentists be certified by the advisory committees.

Integration of office personnel was recommended, particularly pertaining to dentistry.

A New Medical Jim Crow

After long and prayerful consideration of the problem of integrating Negro physicians and dentists into veterans hospitals, Dr. Paul R. Hawley, Veterans Administration medical director, and General Omar Bradley, the Veterans Administration, have come up with a "solution" which fails to solve the problem.

Instead of barring Negro physicians and dentists from all veterans hospitals except the all-Negro institution at Tuskegee, Ala., these officials have hit upon the plan of having all-Negro wards and units with Negro patients attended by Negro doctors and nurses.

They lay down the dictum that local custom will continue to be the ruling factor in segregation and that even in the North the policy will prohibit direct care of white veterans by Negro doctors.

Thus, instead of solving the evil of jim crowism in the Veterans Administration, Dr. Hawley and General Bradley actually extend and strengthen it.

Undoubtedly more Negro doctors and nurses will be employed but there will be more actual segregation than ever, and all this at the expense of taxpayers who are largely opposed to the system or indifferent to it.

The Veterans Administration, in making this "change" seems to have followed closely the new jim crow policy adopted for the U. S. Army.

Colored Americans and millions of white Americans are firmly opposed to this system, and it is difficult to understand how President Truman can allow it to exist in the face of his recent eloquent plea in favor of a Fair Practices Commission.

Since racial segregation is everywhere and always discriminatory in its application, how can the President criticize private business for discriminating against employes on the basis of color while permitting one of his largest bureaus to openly practice it at the expense of millions of reluctant taxpayers?

Medics Rap Jim Crow In Vet Hospitals

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The Veterans' Administration's determination to keep its hospitals throughout the nation Jim Crow met with a barrage of criticism last week.

The flurry of criticism came on the heels of an announcement by Dr. Paul R. Hawley, medical director of the Veterans' Administration, that a new system of segregation had been adopted by the agency which would "provide more jobs for Negro doctors and nurses."

Direct issue with Dr. Paul R. Hawley, medical director of the Veterans' Administration, was taken last Friday by Dr. W. Montague Cobb, professor of Anatomy in the Howard Medical School, over the question of whether segregated hospitals would afford veterans the best medical service and at the same time give colored doctors an opportunity to progress.

Speaking for the 188 members of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia—the first, oldest and largest medical society of colored doctors—Dr. Cobb damned the Veterans' Administration policy of segregating colored veterans and doctors and declared that the medical society, of which he is president, is unequivocally opposed to segregation of any kind.

Jim Crow Creates Problems

"The excellence of a medical institution is determined by its personnel, its facilities, and its environment," Dr. Cobb said.

"To take the very best personnel and facilities and place them in a segregated hospital in Mississippi and expect them to maintain the degree of medical excellence a veteran should have would be like removing the Harvard Medical School to the backwoods of Mississippi and expecting it to remain the same."

Emphasizing that there could be no compromise in his mind between segregation and integration, the outspoken Cobb pointed out that whereas segregation of colored doctors and veterans only brought on more problems, integration, on the other hand, would solve its problems in VA hospitals just as it had solved them in civilian life.

On another scene, Dr. William T. Grady, president of the National Dental Association sought to explain the attitude of his organization toward the VA plan.

The Dental Association told Dr. Hawley in a conference March 6, it favored Mound Bayou as the site of a Jim Crow hospital if the Veterans' Administration had determined to build an all-colored hospital in Mississippi.

Ask Better Environment

Dr. Grady issued the following statement:

"When General Hawley was asked if he planned to establish more segregated hospitals he said he had definitely decided to put one in Tennessee and Mississippi. As to Mississippi he said he did not know whether it would be at Mound Bayou or McComb.

"We made it clear that we are unalterably opposed to this type of segregation for veterans and suggested that all emergency cases be flown to a better environment and these cases which were not emergency ones could be transferred by rail.

"I consider segregation the greatest stumbling block to a democratic form of government," Dr. Grady added, "and the endorsement of discrimination is a grave step backward."

The Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Medical Association, the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia, and other organizations are on record as being unalterably opposed to any extension of segregation in veterans' facilities and as favoring integration of patients and personnel in veterans' hospitals.

Rankin Defends Plan

Negro doctors in the South favor the building of a Jim Crow hospital for veterans in Mississippi, but Communists are protesting against it according to Rep. John E. Rankin, (R., Miss.).

Defending the House Committee on Un-American Activities against charges leveled at it, Rankin said on the House floor last week:

"Right today I am trying to get the Veterans' Administration to build a hospital for the Negro veterans in my state; but the Communist Negroes from other states and a few long-nosed Communists who are from other countries, are protesting; yet the Negro doctors down there say they want this hospital so they can have their own doctors and their own nurses treat their own people.

"But these Communists want to force the whites and blacks into the same hospital, in order to create as much trouble as possible."

The hospital mentioned by Rankin is the proposed 200-bed Jim Crow hospital which the Veterans' Administration is planning to build at McComb, Miss., and the people he called Communists are American citizens who are opposed to race discrimination and segregation in veterans' facilities.

Lawlah Meets With Dean

Dr. John W. Lawlah, dean of Howard University Medical School, met last Thursday with the Deans' Committee of Mount Alto Hospital here.

It was the first time a colored man has ever sat down with a deans' committee of a Veterans' Administration hospital.

The deans' committee of veterans' hospitals are set up by the Veterans' Administration to advise on medical standards of veterans' hospitals and judge the medical qualifications of doctors applying for staff positions.

After the meeting Thursday, Dr. Lawlah said most of the one-hour session had been devoted to acquainting him with policies and procedures previously followed by the committee.

He said that as a member of the committee any colored doctor appointed as a consultant at Mount Alto would first be recommended by him, but that he would not make any such recommendations until he had consulted his executive committee at Howard University.

Jim Crow Okay, Says Head Of Veterans Hospital

By JAMES C. APPERSON

If Negro veterans took their constitutional rights as seriously as Southern white vets take their "white supremacy" rights, the Veterans' Administration would soon abolish the hospital Jim Crow in this entire nation.

This was the opinion expressed on Tuesday by Col. Warren A. Colton, manager of the Edward Hines Hospital, in a conference with a delegation from the Chicago chapter of the Provisional Committee for a National Veterans' Organization.

Said Colton: "We at Hines do not intend to make this a 'guinea pig' and do away with segregated wards, for we have found that few Negroes here object to being to themselves."

Integration "Impractical"

The hospital manager, presently on terminal leave prior to reverting to civilian status, said that although the patients participate in an integrated basis, the large percentage of southerners on races made it impractical to have interracial wards.

Asked if he favored the Jim Crow setup, Colton replied: "Personally, I do not but my job is to operate this hospital as smoothly as possible. In an institution where the willingness of the people to eliminate friction, then the hospital should be operated on that basis."

The hospital head stated that he had had experience with Southern whites on the matter of racial

Vets Fire Question

To a question concerning the veterans' delegation's stand for it" which would not stand for it," Colton replied that the majority officials state that during the last week, five white expectant mothers have been patients in Provident's Obstetrical ward.

Patients "Happy"

The delegation then asked the Colton gave the impression that it didn't seem logical that the Federal Government should lead rather than follow in matters of democratic treatment of its citizens, to which Colton replied after some hesitation, "Probably so, but it's not always as simple as that. If we attempt to follow the Civil Rights Law here, we'll only get into trouble."

Backing up Colton's claim that the rights of man, the Jim Crow setup at Hines is the best under the circumstances and finally was Thomas J. Lynch, the hospital's senior contact representative. Lynch, who formerly operated a plumbing business in the vicinity of 47th st. and South Parkway, pointed out that most of the patients, Negro and white, are "happy" with things as they now stand at Hines.

62b 1946

Homes & hospitals (Naval)

Progress Toward Democracy

The Informer
Houston, Texas Sat. 9-28-46

Here is the lead paragraph in a recent news story from Houston: "As the new $10,000,000 Naval hospital officially opened its doors to the public, personnel records showed that one hundred and twenty-five Negroes were employed, and sixteen Negro patients occupied beds scattered among the wards which are now in operation, and sharing in every way all of the services and facilities the hospital has to offer."

This is progress toward democracy and is encouraging and welcome news. What is more, this little manifestation of the democratic process has not hurt anybody. None of the patients of other races were any the worse off because Negro patients who had offered their lives in defense of their country were being given the same treatment of their wounds and diseases now that the active fighting has come to an end.

62b 1946 Militia and National Guard (General)

Reserve, Guard Officers Asked to Return to Duty

War Department Sets Quota for Each Branch
4,400 Needed to Replace Dischargees

WASHINGTON

The War Department has allotted quotas for the volunteer return to active duty of 4,400 National Guard and Reserve officers of the Army Air and Service Forces, in addition to openings for 2,000 Army Ground Forces officers.

Desiring to maintain in the interim Army a capable volunteer officers' corps balanced with respect to the distribution of military occupational specialties, grade, or service, the Department set quotas within the authorized requirements for each branch.

Officers accepted will replace officers who have had long service and are eligible for separation. It is planned that this policy will remain in effect until the Army attains a permanent post-war status.

Qualifications for Duty

An officer who has reverted to National Guard or Reserve status may volunteer for and be placed on extended active duty in a grade not higher than the grade in which he served prior to processing for relief from active duty.

Qualifications include:

Physical fitness, agreement to remain on duty until July 1, 1947, or longer, professional qualification to perform a military occupational specialty with only refresher and orientation training, and an efficiency index of 40 or better for officers of major and above, and 35 for captains and below.

Apply in Writing

Besides Reserve and National Guard officers, qualified former Women's Army Corps officers and hospital dieticians are eligible for recall to active duty. Officers wishing to volunteer must apply in writing to The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington 25, D.C.

An accepted officer will be subject to overseas assignment and to any downward grade readjustment procedure in the same manner as all other officers on active duty, except that he may not be reduced below his Dec. 7, 1941 grade.

The National Guard

From the War Department have been issued orders that the post-war National Guard strength be set at 682,114 officers and enlisted men, which is twice the size of the pre-war force.

This order was forecast by The Pittsburgh Courier sometime ago, on which occasion we suggested that the Negroes in the various States make a strong effort to eliminate racial separatism in this military organization.

Since that time, nothing has been done in any State about integrating Negroes into the National Guard simply as citizens nor have we heard of any effort to get strictly Negro units in all branches of service within the National Guard in any State.

We regard this as an extremely serious oversight on the part of Negro leadership, because it is legally and politically possible to deal a blow at jim crowism in the National Guard—far easier than establishing a State FEPC.

The various State guards are under the jurisdiction and are partially subsidized by the Federal Government, which derives its income from the taxation of all citizens.

Wherever such condition exists, the instiution or organization becomes in effect Federal-controlled and, in any event, tax-supported.

If the United States Supreme Court could force tax-supported "white" universities in the Southern States to accept Negro graduate students where no comparable educational facilities were provided for Negroes by the State, then a State guard cannot continue to discriminate against Negroes in institutions similarly supported.

It seems to us that this question of eliminating the color line in the National Guard is the most important facing us today, for it is during times of peace that officers are trained to assume leadership in war time, and if they are permitted only to serve and receive training in two or three States and but one branch of the service, they will never be prepared to lead others in time of war. During the period between World War I and World War II, Negro reserve officers received practically no training, because they were virtually barred from the National Guard in all but a handful of States, and the Negro units there were very small and certainly not commensurate either with the proportion of Negroes in the population nor their need for training facilities.

Unless veterans and their oroganizations get actively behind the campaign to eliminate jim crow in the National Guard, it is unlikely that it will be done.

SEGREGATION PROTESTED

New York Times

Separation of Negro Units in State Guard Called 'Disgraceful'

Sun. 3-14-46

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Willkie Memorial Building, 20 West 40th Street, made public yesterday a resolution sent to Brig. Gen. Ames T. Brown, State Adjutant General, condemning "the segregated policy" of the New York State Guard.

The association declared that "the public policy of this most socially progressive State" in the past has been "to strike out against every indication of discrimination or segregation based solely upon a citizen's race, creed, color, or national origin." To continue to require separate Negro units in the Sttae Guard "is illogical, unwarranted, and disgraceful," the statement said.

Besides objecting to "over-all segregation," the association took the position that "hardship is imposed upon the individual Negro who wants to enlist in a community where there is no separate unit." Times 3-14-46

State Guard Jim Crow Hit

Afro-American

No Change in Racial Setup Indicated

OPPOSITION BEGUN

Integration Urged by Varied Groups

By Staff Correspondent

TRENTON—Plans for a new streamlined State National Guard with a complement of 20,000 men are nearing approval, but no change has been proposed for the old pre-war jim-crow pattern, according to sources close to the State Military Board. 6-1-46

The modernized setup, it is understood, is likely to include Army, Navy, Air Corps and Marine units.

Also, the War Department is being pressed for an armored unit, which, if granted, will be either a tank or an anti-tank outfit.

Action Seen on Way

Col. John P. Reed, State assistant adjutant general, says these plans still are in the formative stage and nothing is yet definite.

However, it is believed that the State adjutant general will map out a program for final action when the State Governors' Conference is held later this month in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Further, it is understood that Maj. Gen. Clifford R. Powell of Mount Holley, who was recently discharged from the Army, will head the New Jersey National State Guard. Baltimore

Opposition Launched

Opposition to the pre-war jim-crow pattern for colored already has been voiced by Alpha Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. Maryland.

The Alphas sent a resolution last month to Gov. Walter E. Edge and Adjt. Gen. James I. Bowers asking that colored men be accepted for service in the regular units authorized by the War Department.

The Atlantic City Club Federation has asked Gov. Edge to bar segregation in any new setup.

Seeks Aid of NAACP

The issue will be taken to the New Jersey Conference of NAACP branches, which meets Friday in Trenton, by Bertram C. Bland, former Army officer who heads the Alpha public affairs committee.

Mr. Bland said the NAACP conference will be asked to press for integration of colored men in all State National Guard units, and to oppose the use of colored personnel as service troops only.

Quick Action Needed

He said it is urgent that action be taken immediately, before the personnel is recruited, and revealed that the committee has sent a letter to Sen. Alexander Smith in Washington urging that he back this policy of integration. He asserted: 6-1-46

"We don't want it to be like it was in 1925 when the State Legislature authorized the old First Separate Battalion on the grounds that the National Guard quota had been filled before any arrangements were made for colored personnel."

Urges People's Support

He urged that citizens and organizations throughout the State support this policy of integration by writing to Gov. Edge and the State Military Board in Trenton.

The State Guard, which was established during 1942 after the State National Guard was inducted, is all white. Col. Reed says it has a force of 2,000.

8th Infantry Tops Local Drill Teams

Defender

The 8th Infantry Regiment, Illinois National Guard, continued to lead in a drill attendance competition sponsored by a local paper, Leo M. Boyle, adjutant general, announced last week. 6-1-46

The regiment, commended by Col. Clifton E. Jones, has been in first place with an average weekly attendance of 67.9 per cent, since the contest began Jan. 1. Latest figures covered the four-month period ending April 30. The contest officially closes June 30.

Leading the regiment in competition between rifle companies is Company B, with 76.7 per cent attendance.

Illinois National Guard to Use Negro Pilots in Unit Combat Team

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-6-46

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—The first break in the restrictions against use of Negro pilots in the newly formed Air National Guard was revealed here last week when a spokesman for the War Department verified the report that the Illinois State Guard had completed plans for the inclusion of Negro pilots. According to the report, Negro pilots will be used as a unit combat team. Although the unit will be all-Negro this is the first time in history that Negroes have been assigned within a "white" National Guard Division.

(The Air National Guard has been set up under a new reorganization plan which makes it one arm of the Aid Defense Command. The ADC will become responsible for the air defense of Continental United States and the coordination of continental air units.)

REFUSES COMMENT

Maj. Gen. Leo M. Boyle, Adjutant General of Illinois, has refused to comment on the composition of the National Guard in that State but has admitted that it does include a combat team composed of Negroes.

It had been hoped that Illinois would be one of the Northern States to completely integrate Negroes in the ANG. When appraised of this hope, the spokesman for the War Department admitted that the Illinois move was "a far cry from individual integration," but pointed to the historical significance of the move and explained that it followed the pattern as recommended under the Gillem report.

3,500 PILOTS

It was also learned that the allocation for Illinois in the Air Reserve—the other arm of the ADC—had been made and amounted to 3,500 pilots. According to the War Department, there has been no indication that Negroes will be included in this allotment.

COMMITTEE FORMED

Meanwhile interested citizens in several cities have formed committees to press for inclusion of Negroes in the ANG and AR in their States.

(Established to maintain individual proficiency of all categories of the Army Air Force reserve personnel, the Air Reserve is scheduled to provide interim training for 50,000 officers and 120,000 enlisted men on inactive status. It is considered by many to be of more importance than the Air National Guard.)

In Detroit, a committee under Louis Martin, publisher, has taken up the matter with city and State elected officials and has been promised action. Sat 7-6-46

In Philadelphia, a committee headed by Marshall Shepherd, D. C. Recorder of Deeds, has been at work calling on elected officials of Pennsylvania.

Michigan Nat'l Guard Keeps Negroes Out

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 9-4-46

By William Allan

DETROIT, Sept. 3.—The Michigan Republican administration has decided to bar Negroes from the state militia. Republican Gov. Kelly's appointee, Maj. Gen. Thomas Colladay of the Michigan National Guard has announced that **"Negroes will not be accepted at present for enlistment in the Michigan National Guard."**

Proof of this can be seen in the case of C. W. Valentine, a Negro airman formerly of the 477th Bomber Group who presented his application a week ago for admission to the air corp section of the guard. He was told it was all filled up.

This was done despite the fact that only that morning applicants were being taken and three full squadrons had to be filled up.

SEEKS WAY OUT

Gen. Colladay sought an out when pressed on this discrimination, tried to pass the buck to the U. S. Army, which he claimed had not designated what units should be allocated to Negroes. Wed. 9-4-46

Each State, however, has the authority to determine the make-up of its own national guard.

Owen J. Cleary, deputy chief of staff of the National Guard, and a running mate of GOP candidate for Governor Kim Sigler, when quizzed on this discrimination against Negroes, said that he was not ready to discuss integration of Negroes into the National Guard.

Sigler, while conducting a **"clean the state"** campaign, has been mum on cleaning out this discrimination policy, despite the fact the American Veterans Committee, NAACP, NNC and UNAVA have demanded action.

The daily press recently printed a long list of officers appointed by Gen. Colladay **"after a careful sur-**

NEGRO UNITS EARN PRAISE AT SMITH

The Times New York, N.Y.

State Guard Troops in Training Rated Among Best—Break Camp Wednesday

Sun. 9-22-46

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y., Sept. 21—Rated as among the best disciplined units of the State Guard, the Negro troops of the Fifteenth Regiment of Harlem, commanded by Col. W. Woodruff Chisum; the Third Separate Infantry Battalion of Brooklyn, led by Major Myers A. Paige, and the First Platoon of Company B of the First Quartermaster Battalion of Manhattan, on a twelve-day training tour here at Camp Smith, are hard at work becoming familiar with modern combat tactics.

With eighty-four officers and 829 men the Fifteenth Regiment has a full complement in the field as has the Third Infantry Battalion with twenty-seven officers and 392 men. These coupled with the troops of Company B places more than 1,400 in the field.

To many of the officers and men, whose ages range from 17 to 55 years, the training schedule is anything but new, as about 40 per cent of those in training have had previous service either in the United States Army or the National Guard. Nearly all senior officers

Staff Officers Listed

officers assisting Colonel Perry W. Cheney, regimental surgeon, and Major James W. Thornare Lieut. Col. Ira L. Alton, dental officer. Staff executive officer; Major W. Perkinson, adjutant; Col. Douglas R. Crier, plans Aides to Major Paige are Capt. ining officer; Major Oscar William G. Holly. ams, supply officer; Capt. Edward W. Bridge, Lieut. Col. D veille and continues until the eve- ruled on results. ning drill parade.

Arrived in Camp Sept. 14

Arriving in camp Sept. 14, members of the various units spent the afternoon in getting under canvas and ready for the training that begins each morning with setting up exercises after a 5:45 A. M. reveille and continues until the eve- ruled on results.

The command post exercises, with all units taking part, have been completed with excellent results. Squad, platoon, company and many non-commission officers were in service during the first or second World War.

Capt. Harold J. Miller, personnel officer; Major Arthur C. Ford, engineering officer; Capt. Samuel M. Faide, headquarters commander; Capt. John M. Bryan, Holbrook, engineering officer; Capt. William H. Jones, plans and O. King, James H. 1st Lieut. Os cer Ma icer; ntal sur- Norcom, eon; Capt. regimental chaplain. 9-22-46

The command post exercises, with all units taking part, have been completed with excellent results. Squad, platoon, company and many non-commission officers were in service during the first or second World War.

Arrived in Camp Sept. 14

Arriving in camp Sept. 14, members of the various units spent the afternoon in getting under canvas and ready for the training that begins each morning with setting up exercises after a 5:45 A. M. reveille and continues until the eve- ruled on results.

Staff Officers Listed

officers assisting Colonel Perry W. Cheney, regimental surgeon, and Major James W. Thornare Lieut. Col. Ira L. Alton, dental officer. Staff executive officer; Major W. Perkinson, adjutant; Col. Douglas R. Crier, plans Aides to Major Paige are Capt. ining officer; Major Oscar William G. Holly. ams, supply officer; Capt. Edward W. Bridge, Lieut. Col. D adjutant; 1st Lieut Eugene A. Luces, veille and continues until the eve- ruled on results. ning drill parade. Charles Magill, H. Williams, intelligence officer; Lieut. Paul Faulkner, intelligence officer; Eugene

expected in camp to witness the day's ceremonies, which includes an expected review of all units by Governor Thomas E. Dewey. Breaking camp on Wednesday the troops will end the field training of State Guard units for the year.

JIM CROWISM HERE TOO

The Chronicle, Detroit, Michigan
Sat 10-5-46

The colored captain, who was given the bum's rush by the Michigan chapter of the National Guard because "no provisions have been made to integrate Negroes into the battalions which have been formed," has given the local leadership plenty of homework. For months we have been deluged by reports from the South, all telling a story of oppression and violence under the rigid system of segregation. This Dixie pattern, however, is winning support here in enlightened Michigan where, theoretically, men are judged on merit and not on ancestry.

Many whites do not understand our keen concern over this segregation issue, and some feel that we should accept the division of the races as the "practical solution to a difficult problem." They don't realize that the jim-crow system contains within itself the seeds of racial conflict and violence. All of the trouble in the South and all that is sure to come in the future can be traced to the efforts of those who want to force Negroes and whites into separate camps with barbed wire in between.

It is particularly provoking when an arm of government gives support to this vicious anti-democratic system. It makes the job of routing segregation from the general society doubly difficult. The separation of the races in the U.S. Army which produces two armies, a black one and a white one, has not solved the so-called race problem for the Army, but has made the problem bigger and more menacing. As long as Michigan condones jim-crowism officially in any fashion, it encourages and promotes the extension of this hate-pattern of life.

Michigan has a liberal tradition that must not be destroyed by those who are blind to the dangers of racism. We believe that whites as well as Negroes should defend the liberal traditions of the state against the encroachment of the Southern racist theories and practices. Sat. 10-5-46

We do not want Michigan to become another Mississippi and the only way to stop it is to oppose the advance of the jim-crowers at every step on every front. It is a big job, but it can be done and anyone who values democracy knows it is worth doing.

Two battalions of Negroes for state's national guard

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif
Sat. 10-26-46

California's post-war National Guard will include two battalions of Negro troops, Brigadier General Curtis D. O'Sullivan, state adjutant general, announced today.

One of the new units will be a combat engineer battalion with headquarters in the Los Angeles area, the other an anti-aircraft artillery battalion to be established in the San Francisco Bay area.

Appointments of all officers above the rank of first lieutenant are limited to officers with wartime service for six months subsequent to Dec. 7, 1941, General O'Sullivan said. Bowing in the direction of Negro enlistments, he added:

"The record of Negro troops in World War II and the excellent service of the California State Guard's 7th battalion, 29th regiment in Los Angeles has set a high standard of performance to be attained by these new National Guard units."

Eligibles are ex-GIs 17 to 35 years of age with honorable discharges. Enlistments are taken every Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the State Armory, 700 Exposition blvd. GIs may enlist at the same rate of pay held in the Army, which is as follows, per drill:

Private, $2.50; pfc., $2.66; corporal, $3.00; sergeant, $3.33; staff sergeant, $3.83; technical sergeant, $4.50; master sergeant, $5.50; first sergeant, $5.50.

No 'Integration' Rule Bars Hondon Hargrove

Chronicle Detroit, Mich.
Sat. 9-28-46

Hondon Hargrove, formerly a captain of artillery in the United States Army, and captain in the Reserve Corps, was refused admittance to the Michigan chapter of the National Guard last week on the grounds that "no provisions have been made to integrate Negroes into the battalions which have been formed."

According to Hargrove he reported to the Michigan State Troops office at 285 Piquette last Thursday after receiving an unsolicited invitation to appear before the board.

Former C.O.

Former commanding officer of "C" battery, in the 597th Field Artillery Battalion, with the 92nd Division, Hargrove felt that he was qualified to at least make application to become an officer in the field artillery unit of the Michigan State Troops.

"When I came into the armory at 285 Piquette, I was met by a lieutenant colonel, who refused to allow me to come before the board of officers, who were passing on the qualifications of applicants," Hargrove said.

According to Hargrove, the officer hedged on the question of admitting him and finally said it is not a policy of the U.S Army to mix groups."

Hargrove says that he then reminded the officer that "when the going got rough" overseas, every one was mixed," and cited his experience in the Italian campaign.

The officer is reported to have said, "I have tried to be nice to you, you cannot have a commission here. Will you please leave."

He said, however, that he would put Hargrove's application on file until the Negro unit was set up.

Hargrove is a graduate of Wilberforce University in social administration and has a master's degree in sociology from Fisk University.

He entered the service in 1941 as a second lieutenant and was later graduated from the field artillery school at Fort Sill, Okla., and infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga. Sat. 9-28-46

He served nine months in actual combat, and participated in the Po Valley, Rome, Arno and Apennines campaigns.

He is now employed with the United States Employment Service as an interviewer.

62b 1946 Politics & National Guard (Northern)

State Guard Revised And It's Jim Crow

PM New York, N. Y.
Sun. 12-1-46

By John K. Weiss

Reorganization of the New York State Guard into federally-approved National Guard units, which begins on Monday, will be strictly on a Jim Crow basis. There will be two units for Negroes only, the balance will be 100 per cent white. There will be no mixed units.

Announcement of the reorganization of the Guard was made Friday by Lieut. Gen. Hugh A. Drum (Ret.), Commanding General of the New York State Guard. Drum was prominently mentioned as a possible candidate for U. S. Senator on the Republican ticket earlier this year but declined the nomination despite urging from Gov. Dewey.

The overall plan for the reorganization of the State Guard into the National Guard has been approved by Dewey.

The mission of the re-established National Guard, according to a press release announcing its reorganization, is "to supplement the Regular Army in the event of any future emergency or declaration of war." This means that if, for example, the Regular Army were to be used in strike-breaking activities in the coal mines, the National Guard units might also be called out for the same purpose.

Drum also emphasized that "the possible use of atomic weapons in the form of bombs, rocks, or guided missiles by any future enemy" has necessitated a radical change in the composition and character of the National Guard, making it what he called a war-disaster corps.

"It is highly questionable if any remote government agency or extemporized volunteer group could furnish prompt or adequate control or relief in the face of possible panic or mass terror following an attack with atomic weapons."

Col. Hampton Anderson, public relations officer for the Guard, explained that the Jim Crow policy with relation to the State Guard was "in accordance with War Department policies."

He pointed out further that the organization of any mixed units would not be in keeping with National Guard tradition and that had been an important consideration in setting up the alignment of the units.

(In Washington a spokesman for the War Dept. confirmed that the Army will continue its Jim Crow policies. He said that a six-month study has been completed recently on this precise subject and that the recommendations of the study were against the formation of any mixed units.)

The two Negro units to be set up are the present 15th Anti-Aircraft Brigade which will become the 369th Anti-Aircraft Group, and the present 3rd Infantry Batallion (Separate) in Brooklyn which will become the 715th Anti-Aircraft Gun Battalion (semi-mobile). Both will have Negro officers.

Under current plans there will be no Negro units anywhere in the State except in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

Anderson explained that "there are no Negroes concentrated except in these two spots." He pointed out further that there were "no facilities" for colored troops elsewhere in the State, explaining that all existing armories are either "white" or "colored" and that Negro Guard troops are not permitted in white armories and vice versa.

There will be no Negro units in the new Air Reserve Guard to be activated.

Biggest change in the composition of the Guard over its pre-war strength of 28,000 troops will be an Air Reserve composed of 4500 men with 199 aircraft. Headquarters of a fighter wing for New York, New Jersey and Delaware will be stationed at Mitchel Field, together with several fighter and bombardment squadrons. Radar aircraft warning units are to be distributed throughout the State.

Ultimate strength of the New York State National Guard units may run as high as 62,000 under current War Department plans, but present facilities are expected to keep the total at 32,000. The balance will be raised when Federal aid becomes available for building more armories. 12-1-46

625 194? Militia - National Guard (Southern)

Only White Units Here, Says Ga. Guard Head

the Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

ATLANTA (ANP)—If the view of S. Marvin Griffin, head of the Georgia National Guard, prevails, there will be no colored guardsmen in the State, according to a letter received last week by C. A. Scott, editor of the Atlanta Daily World. Sat.

The Georgia National Guard will the protection to all regardless of race, creed, or nationality, and as long as I am adjutant general no colored unit of the Georgia National Guard will be organized in this State," Griffin wrote. 10-5-46

Virginia Plans to Keep Guard Units Lily-White

(Baltimore, Md.

RICHMOND — Unless colored veterans and other potential draftees in Virginia bestir themselves, they will again be left out of the Virginia National Guard units, which will become a lily-white organization, it was indicated last week.

Not only were colored men barred from participation in the State Guard previous to World War II, but none was included in the Virginia Proctective Force, a military organization that supplanted the State Guard when its members were called into the Army.

Sept 4-6-46

Served During War

During the war, members of this lily-white organization functioned in place of the regular guard units, and were mobilized for action whenever necessary.

They were again called out last week by the Governor to serve during the pending strike of employees of the Virginia Electric Power Company.

Guard Now Lily-White

Thus today, local citizens point out, in case of any emergency, including racial trouble, all members of the State Guard would of necessity be members of the white race, termed by some a "perfect setup for another Columbia, Tenn."

Following a call issued by Adjutant General S. Gardner Waller to same 60 officers of the former Virginia Guard to meet with him and the governor here for a "reorganization meeting," an attempt was made by an AFRO reporter to ascertain how many colored men it was proposed to include in the unit.

General Waller admitted it was planned to reorganize the State militia under plans anounced recently my the Army, and that some 12,000 men would be included in the unit throughout the State, but said composition of the units had not been decided upon.

Waller Non-Committal

He refused to commit himself on the question of whether or not enlistment in the Virginia Guard would be open to colored men, stating simply that this matter had not yet come up for discussion.

It is, apparently, therefore up to colored citizens to make the next move.

The proposed meeting, scheduled for last Thursday, was postponed by General Waller until a "later date" after only about 10 of the 60 men invited to the meeting and luncheon in the State Senate chamber indicated that they would attend.

World Launches Drive For Negro Guardsmen

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 8-18-46

Deeply moved by the heartless slaying of four Negroes two of whom were innocent women, near Monroe, Georgia July 25, and desirous that responsible leaders exploit every available means at their command to allay fear and violence between the races, C. A. Scott, Editor and General Manager of The Atlanta Daily World, called upon the State's Chief Executive, Gov. Ellis Arnall, for the immediate establishment of Negro units of the National Guard in this state."

Mr. Scott's letter cited the fact that despite general statements that some of the lynchers are known' no arrests have been made. "This situation," he warns, "is larger than the mere question of Negro physical security, it involves the whole ideod of law, order and decency to say nothing about justice."

A similar letter was sent to Major General Miltonberger, chief of the National Guard, at Washington, D. C.

The full text of the letter follows:

Governor Ellis Arnall,
State Capitol,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Governor Arnall:

The coldblooded and obviously planned massacre of the two Negro men and women on July 25 near Monroe by a mob of white men reveals clearly the precarious position in which members of our race find themselves. But this situation is larger than the mere question of Negro physical security. It involves the whole idea of law, order and decency, to say nothing about justice.

Also, the fact that no arrests have been made, in spite of general statements that some of the lynchers are known," rather aggravates the situation as far as Negroes are concerned,

I believe, therefore, that something definite, perhaps drastic, should be done by the national and state governments to alleviate this feeling of insecurity among the great masses of Negroes in this state and, at the same time, cause the masses of white people to realize that we have certain elementary rights secured by the constitution that must be respected.

The immediate establishment of a Negro unit or units of the National Guard in this state would serve this purpose. Unfortunately, in the past, white troops have not always acted unbiasedly in the interracial conflicts. For instance, refer to the record of the conduct of white troops against the Negroes and their property at Columbia, Tenn. Moreover, it could be generally understood that the proposed Negro units would be used only in connection with the policing of Negro communities.

It is understood that the government also has a responsibility in this matter and for this reason, I am also addressing a similar letter to Major General Miltonberger.

Please let me have your reaction to this suggestion at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,
C. A. Scott,
Editor-General Manager

Units of Negro Guards Outlawed by Griffin

S. Marvin Griffin has taken the stand that "as long as I am Adjutant General, no Negro unit of Georgia National Guard will be organized in this State."

Griffin's attitude toward Negro Guard units was contained in a letter to C. A. Scott, Editor and General Manager of the Atlanta Daily World, and published in the Statesman, Eugene Talmadge's personal newspaper.

No Negro National Guard, Griffin Says

ATLANTA, Sept. 28 (AP)—S. Marvin Griffin says that as long as he is adjutant general of Georgia there will be no Negro units of the National Guard in this state.

Griffin has been mentioned prominently as Eugene Talmadge's choice for the adjutant general's position when the new governor takes office.

2 Majors Appointed to Md. National Guard

BALTIMORE

Majs. H. Maceo Williams and William M. Brady were appointed by Gov. Herbert R. O'Conor, Monday, to head up a service battalion in the rorganization of the new Maryland National Guard.

Major Williams, director of the Druid Health Center since 1940, is to be chief medical officer of the battalion, a quartermaster service unit.

Major Brady is to be the commanding officer of the battalion. Both officers have been actively associated with military; units the State since 1917

628 1946

State Militia & Guard

OHIO STATE INFANTRY TO BE LILY WHITE

CLEVELAND — (ANP) — Non-white men will be accepted in anti-aircraft, signal radar and search-light maintenance units, but will be barred from the infantry in the Ohio State Guard," according to a recent announcement.

Ohio Negroes Denied Place In Infantry

CLEVELAND.— (ANP) — Participation of Negroes in the Ohio State guard will not include representation in the infantry.

The final answer was received last week by Maj. Charles Garner of Cleveland, commander of Ohio's first separate company of infantry, from Gen. D. F. Pancoast, adjutant general. After numerous consultations between the two, Gen. Pancoast wrote that Negroes will be accepted only in anti-aircraft signal radar and searchlight maintenance units.

Gov. Frank J. Lausche had been petitioned by various veterans groups and other citizens to keep the famous 273rd infantry regiment alive, but has been either unable or unwilling to change the minds of top officials.

62b 1946

U. S. Army (Army Information School)

Army Information School's First Enlisted Grads

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 1-4-47

These twelve soldiers are members of the first enlisted class of the Army Information School which was graduated at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., recently. They were given background training in such subjects as the aims of the Army's educational program, familiarization with current world events, off duty education, and in group discussion leading. Seated, left to right, M/Sgt. Cyril A. Edwards, Ft. Lewis, Wash.; T/5 James Triplett, Camp Hood, Tex.; 1st/Sgt. Adair Smith, Ft. Benning; 1st/Sgt. Roy R. Roberts, Ft. Lewis; Pvt. 1/c Vergil H. Hightower, Camp Campbell, Ky; M/Sgt. Emanuel M. Lofton, Ft. Knox. Standing, left to right, T/5 Roosevelt Johnson, Ft. Bragg; T/5 John E. Manning, Ft. Bragg; Cpl. James D. Prince, Langley Field; Cpl. James E. Freeman, Ft. Bragg; Sgt. Gerald E. Banks, Ft. Bragg; Cpl. Jimmie L. Winston, Ft. Benning.

Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Ala.

Rev. Douglass Robinson, who was at one time the chaplain at the air base, is back with us again and now as chaplain at the Veterans' Facility. Friends of the Major are happy to have him back with us and again in the same capacity as chaplain. There are now two regular chaplains at the Facility and one more is in the offing as soon as he can be located, as the growth of the hospital to 2,000 capacity warrants more religious workers. Dec. 2-16-46

Recalled to Duty

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CAPT. JAMES H. STOKES of Goldsboro, N.C., who returned to the States last summer after two years' duty in the Pacific where he served as chaplain, has been recalled to active duty and is now assigned to Camp Campbell, Ky. Chaplain Stokes is the holder of five campaign ribbons and the Bronze Star for heroism in the Leyte Campaign.

Sat. 11-8-46

CME MINISTER GETS COMMISSIONED IN REGULAR U. S. ARMY

Kansas City Call

Newton, Kans. — Announcement was made recently that the Reverend A. E. McWilliams, son of Mr. Max McWilliams, has been appointed a Chaplain in the rank of Captain into the regular Army of the United States of America. The same announcement contained the opinion that perhaps Captain McWilliams is the first Minister of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church to hold a regular Army commission as a Chaplain. He along with several others did fine service as Chaplain in the recent World War serving in the Southwest Pacific with honor to the Church and race and distinction to himself. It is freely predicted that he will measure up to the high responsibilities involved in his recent commission. He will discharge it with high courage, loyalty, integrity and intelligence.

96 Chaplains Still On Active Duty With Army

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Baptists Have 26, AME's 25, Methodists 12; 81 Hold Rank of Captains, 4 Majors, 1 Colonel

Sat. 1-4-47

WASHINGTON (AFRO National Bureau)—With a total of 1700 chaplains still in the U.S. Army, only 96 still on active duty are not white, the AFRO learned this week.

Of this number, the Baptists and AME's are almost evenly matched, with 26 Baptists and 25 of the African Methodist faiths.

The Methodists come third with 12, the Presbyterians 8, AME Zions 5; and the Protestant Episcopal 5. The Church of God has 2 and the Catholics and Lutherans 1 each. The Congregationalists also have 2.

81 Captains

In rank there is one lieutenant colonel, four majors, 81 captains, and 10 lieutenants.

The State of Georgia contributed 15 of the clergymen, with North Carolina 9, Florida 8. All of the States west of Chicago contributed only 10. Four came from Washington and only 1 from Maryland.

The city contributing the largest number is Macon, Ga., which gave the Army 6 sons.

Roster of Chaplains

The entire roster of chaplains on active duty is as follows:

Capt. Richard Anderson, Knoxville Tenn.; Capt. Walter D. S. Barrett Salisbury, N.C.; Lt. Col. Louis J Beasley, Atlanta, Ga; Capt. Frank A Blackwell, Ripley, Miss.; Capt. Ulysses B. Blakeley, Palatka, Fla.; Capt. Linson L. Blakeney, Charlotte, N.C.; Capt. David C. Blue, Warsaw, N.C.; Maj. George G. Bowser, Xenia, Ohio; Lt. Cauthion T. Boyd Jr., Anderson, Ind.; Capt. David L. Brewer, Sanford, Fla.; Capt. Sylvester R. Bright, Tallahasse, Fla.; Capt. Thodore R. Brooks, Sanford, N.C.; Capt. Leonard L. Bruce, Brownsville, Pa.; Capt. Robert A. Bryant, Tartoro, N.C.; Capt. Reuben T. Bussey, Atlanta, Ga.; Capt. Julius C. Carter, Tucson, Ariz.; Capt. William A. L. Clay, Philadelphia, Pa.; Capt. Rufus A. Cooper, San Diego, Calif.; Capt. William B. Crocker, Montgomery, W.Va.; Lt. Theodore D. Daniels, Bristov Capt. Booker T. Davis, C. N.C.; Capt. John A. De Veaux, Jacksonville, Fla.; Capt. John W. Downs, Atlanta Ga.; Capt. Lewis M. Durden, Washington, D.C.; Capt. James A. Edden, Brunswick, Ga.; Capt. Cassius M. C. Ellis, Hopkinsville, Ky.; Capt. Leonard A. Ellis, Due West, S.C.; Capt. Matthew C. Faulkner, Ft. Worth, Tex.; Lt. De Leon Felder, Bishopville, S.C.; Capt. Charles Fisher, Austin, Tex.; Capt. Drue C. Ford, Garland, Tex.; Lt. Theodore P. Ford, Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 1-4-47

Capt. Chalmers F. Gaithers, Los Angeles, Calif.; Maj. Elmer P. Gibson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Capt. Ford Gibson, Keokuk, Iowa; Capt. Mark M. Ford, Denver, Colo.; Capt. William C. Grau, Lackawanna, N.Y.; Maj. James C. Griffin, Washington, D.C.; Capt. Ervin E. Grimmett, Institute, Ala.; Capt. Douglass Hall, Washington, D.C.; Capt. Junious E. Hall, Jeffersontown, Ky.; Capt. John W. Handy Jr., Fruitland, Md.; Capt. Elijah H. Hankerson, St. Augustine, Fla.; Lt. David S. Harkness, Macon, Ga.; Capt. Ellsworth G. Harris, Columbus, Ohio; Lieut. Ernest L. Harrison, Ripley, Miss.; Capt. Gerald L. Hayden, South Bend, Ind.; Capt. Charles B. Hodge, Tucson, Ariz.; Lt. Melbourne R. Hogarth, Minneapolis, Minn.

Mississippian in List

Capt. Brannon J. Hopson, Kosciusko, Miss.; Lt. Christopher Hughes, Waycross, Ga.; Capt. Charles S. H. Hunter Jr., Macon, Ga.; Capt. Millard F. Jefferson, Boston, Mass.; Capt. Pliny W. Jenkins, Thomasville, N.C.; Capt. Warren J., Jenkins, Atlanta, Ga.; Capt. Andrew L. Johnson, Cincinnati, Ohio; Capt. Simeon T. Johnson, Roselle, N.J.; Capt. Hubert C. Jones, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Capt. Alexander L., Lewis, Mason, Ga.; Capt. Samuel A. Lewis, New York, N.Y.; Capt. Norman G. Long, Oberlin, Ohio; Capt. Alfred E. McWilliams, Tyler, Tex.; Capt. Furney N. Marshburn, Mason, Ga.; Capt. Alphonse Maxwell, St. Louis, Mo.; Capt. James A. Mayo, Washington, D.C.; Capt. Elisha McNair, Macon, Ga.; Capt. Joseph R. Middleton, Chicago, Ill.; Capt. Clifton Morgan, Tampa, Fla.; Lt. James H. Murray Jr., Houston, Tex.; Capt. Theodore R. Owens, Chatham, Va.; Capt. Sanford N. Peak, Kimball, Va.; Capt. John E. Percy, Harpers Ferry, W.Va.; Capt. Alphonse S. Powe, Raleigh, N.C.; Capt. Joseph D. Pruden, Norfolk, Va.; Capt. Clarence H. Richmond, Gainesville, Fla.

Capt. Douglas L. T. Robinson, Macon. Ga.; Capt. Paul G. Ross. Barbourville, Ky.; Capt. Robert J. Saunders, Los Angeles, Calif.; Capt. Osborne E. Scott, Phoebus, Va.; Capt. Girard Sessions, Tennille, Ga.; Capt. Henry Y. Sideboard, Cordele, Ga.; Capt. Albert L. Smith, New York, N.Y.; Capt. Theodore R. Smith, Shreveport, La.; Capt. Forrest M. Stith, Fort Scott, Kan.; Capt. James H. Stokes, Charlotte, N.C.; Capt. Lamar A. Stroud, Social Circle, Ga.; Capt. Winnett E. Sutterfield, Weston, Mo.; Capt. Melvin C. Swann, Coffeyville, Kas.; Capt. James W. Wactor, Columbia, S.C.; Capt. Charles C. Walker, East Orange, N.J.; Capt. James Exeley H. Warley, Valdosta, Ga.; Capt. Frank L. White, Washington, D.C.; Capt. Kenneth White, Jacksonville, Fla.; Capt. Marwell S. Whittington, Savannah, Ga.; Capt. General R. Woods, Ogden, Utah.

62b 1246

U. S. Army (General)

They've Given Uncle Sam 169 Years of Loyal Service

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 11-30-46

These long-time Army men show evidence of loyal service to their country. All are now stationed at Fort Knox, Ky. Left to right, 1st/Sgt Newton T. Lewis of NYC (32 yrs. service), S/Sgt. Robert Prindell of Manhattan, Kans. (29 yrs.), T/Sgt. Walter Ragland of South Boston Va. (26 yrs.) S/Sgt. Booker T. Sanders of Eufala, Okla. (24 yrs.), S/Sgt. Hubbert Phillips of Omaha, Neb. (21 yrs.), S/Sgt. Willie Strickland of Junction City, Kans. (19 yrs.) and 1st/Sgt. Walter Brown of Columbus, Ga. (18 yrs.). 11-30-46

6 GI Vets Have Spent 169 Years in Service

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO — To demonstrate their many years of loyalty and devotion to duty, these "Old-Timers," pictured above, pose to show evidence of their years spent in service to their country.

This group, all stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., represent a total of 169 years' of service, with many months spent overseas in the Pacific and European Theaters of Operations. Sat. 11-30-46

Chief among this group is First Sgt. Newton T. Lewis of New York, who has participated in three wars in his 32 years' of service.

Ranking second in this group is S/Sgt. Robert Prindell of Manhattan, Kans., who has a total of 29 years' service, including overseas service in both World Wars.

The third honor in this group goes to T/Sgt. Walter Ragland of South Boston, Va., who has 26 years' of service. In fourth place is S/Sgt. Booker T. Sanders of Eufala. Okla.. with 24 years' service, while S/Sgt. Hubbert Phillips of Omaha, Neb., has served 21 years; S/Sgt. Willie Strickland of Junction City, Kans., 19; and First Sgt. Walter Brown of Columbus. Ga., 18.

171,031, Nearly 10% in Army on Oct. 1

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

On Oct. 1, 1946, the total colored strength of the Army was 171,031, or 9.84% of the total Army strength at that time, the War Department announced on Oct. 16. Sat. 12-21-46

Of the total, 115,303 were Regular Army personnel and 73,195 were stationed outside the Continental United States. The number overseas constituted 10.03% of the total Army strength in foreign areas.

At that time, colored troops in the European Theater numbered 31,408 and constituted 11.26% of the total strength in that theater.

A partial breakdown of the troops and the areas and theater in which they were stationed follows:

CONTINENTAL	
Army Air Forces	29,226
Army Ground Forces	16,589
Army Areas and Military District of Washington	16,513
Administrative and Technical Services	34,900
War Department Groups	608
Total	97,836
OVERSEAS	
U.S. Army Forces, Pacific	31,416
U.S. Army Forces, European Theater	31,408
En Route U.S. to Theaters	3,748
U.S. Army Forces, Mediterranean Theater	3,269
Alaskan Department	2,251
Caribbean Defense Command	598
Commanding General, Army Air Forces	495
Total	73,195

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 12-21-46

614th 'Tank Killer' Bn. Reactivated

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Unit Won Fame, Glory in European Theater

CAMP HOOD, Texas — Recently reactivated at this camp, the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion will be attached to the 2nd Armored Division, stationed here, and will act as general reserve unit.

The reactivated unit is composed of men who have recently been transferred here from the Overseas Replacement depot at Camp Kilmer, N.J.

In the first week of July, 532 men detrained at the camp for assignment to the 614th, thus the battalion is already over the T-O strength of 448.

Training Program Planned

The 614th has self-propelled weapons, including motor carriers and armored cars. Plans are being formulated for an active training program which will begin as soon as the battalion is fully equipped.

The 614th was one of two colored TD units to fight in France during the recent war. Conclusion of hostilities in the Pacific found the unit at Marseille, France, where it was subsequently inactivated. Sat. 7-27-46

Won Unit Citation

During its 156 days in the line, from Dec. 6, 1944, to the end of the war, the unit fought in campaigns in Northern France, the Rhineland and Central Europe.

One platoon received the Distinguished Unit Citation for outstanding service at Olimbach, France, on a task mission with elements of the 103rd Infantry Division.

One company commander, Capt. Charles L. Thomas of Detroit, now an AFRO columnist, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the second member of his race to receive this decoration in World War II.

Also, while serving in France, eight men of this unit received Silver Stars, 28 won Bronze Stars and 79 received Purple Hearts; 3 were killed and 7 were seriously wounded and 10 were captured.

Race Quota Dropped in Recruiting Army Medics

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 11-23-46

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA)—Believe it or not the Medical Corps will commission and assign doctors without regard to race in procuring 1,600 doctors authorized to be commissioned in the Regular Army, the office of the Surgeon General said last Tuesday.

If true, this represents a complete about face by the Army Medical Corps. All during the war while there was a shortage of doctors and nurses in the Medical Corps, ceilings were maintained on colored personnel.

NO SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Inasmuch as application forms for Regular Army commissions in the Medical Corps are not marked according to race, color or creed, the Surgeon General's office replied to a question, whoever applies and whoever meets the qualifications will be accepted and commissioned.

There will be no specific assignments for colored officers, it was added, and they will be assigned according to their specialties and capabilities.

Gen. Norman T. Kirk, the Surgeon General, sent out letters last Friday to some 5,000 young doctors who received their medical education in the Army Specialized Training program regarding a career in the Regular Army. The War Department has authorized the commissioning of approximately 16,000 doctors.

OPEN TO GRADUATES OF HOWARD, MEHARRY

A number of colored doctors received their medical education at Howard Medical School and Meharry Medical College in the Army Specialized Training program and are eligible for commissions in the Regular Army.

In pointing out the benefits of a

in the field of medicine and its various specialties" and that "that service will be devoted not only to advanced study in leading civilian medical schools in leading meried and

Army Department has waived certain qualifications demanded of which

Younger men will be used entirely for professional assignments and training, the year's internship in war Department announ the case of ASTP-train- "the ement said today. The ed doctors who received this

years of medical career in the Army edical Corps, Gen- ral Kirk noted that the service offers hirty years of work

no dependents.

years as four years of

salary as a first lieutenant of $3,804, if he has dependents, and $3,372, if he has

Army general hospitals

Under the present program, more than 400 army doctors will have completed graduate and refresher course by Dec. 31.

GET GOOD PAY

An army doctor begins specialize in m military medicine and surgery as soon as he enters and service. He receives an initial study and nine months internship.

The Old Army Game

Defender

MEADER'S FRENZIED report charging misconduct of Negro soldiers in Europe has been pretty well discredited. Everybody who knows the facts, except the racists, label it "Pfui!" Further discrediting it is colored Maj. Bob Cocklin's well timed article "Report On The Negro Soldier" in December Infantry Journal (see your newsstand). Written with publication in Saturday Eve. Post in mind (S.E.P. says war is over and readers ain't interested unless a four-star general says it), it rates a B plus. It gets no "A" from us because of that tripe at the end about special training and leadership needed for colored troops. But Bob who was with 93rd, gets a hand.

Chicago, Ill.

Norman Kirk, Army Surgeon General is sending out letters begging 5,000 young doctors to come on in and get some of the Peace-Time Army gravy, $3,804 and up to First Looeys. War Dept. has authorized commissions for 1600 immediately. It's really a gravy train, chum, but Norman said to someone we know that he doesn't want any Negro doctors and he doesn't mean to change his mind for anybody. That's how it is.

Sat. 12-21-46

Newsweek editors insist they have info that all colored troops will be removed from Europe in January, and are hounding War Dept. officials for confirmation. Marcus Ray who went over to have a look see in Europe is due back in the Pentagon Monday (16th) and we await the next move after he reports. Meanwhile General McNarney has lifted the ban on marriage of German girls to U. S. soldiers, and with the frauleins more anxious to get to U. S. than to Heaven the color line will take a helluva beating.

TOTAL NEGRO STRENGTH OF ARMY 171,031 AS OF OCTOBER 1, 1946

The Iowa Bystander

WASHINGTON, D. C.—On October 1, 1946, the total Negro strength of the Army was 171, 031, it has been announced by the War Department. This figure represented 9.84 per cent of the total Army strength at that time.

Des Moines, Iowa. Tribune 12-27-46

Of the total as of October 1, 115,303 were Regular Army personnel and 73,195 were stationed outside the Continental United States. The Negro strength consisted 10.03 per cent of the total Army strength overseas.

At that time Negro troops in the European Theater numbered 31,408 and constituted 11.26 per cent of the total strength in that theater.

RAY VS. WAR DEPARTMENT

Defender Chicago, Ill.

'Elite' Army Plan Backfires

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — War Department officials were faced this week with the responsibility of finding a way out of the extremely untenable position into which they have been led following the "elite" Army proposal of Marcus Ray, civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Sat. 11-16-46

Ray's recommendation that Negro enlistments for the Regular Army be confined to men of high school education and better has boomeranged on the department in the form of widespread objections from Negro individual and organizational leadership.

Moreover, the recommendation will force the Army to resume the draft before Jan. 1, in order to meet its overseas commitments. A request for draft extension beyond the March 31, 1947 deadline seems inevitable, as Army enlistments sagged more than 80 per cent in the first three weeks of October.

How to backtrack from this embarrassing position is causing top War Department officials no little concern—a concern, which, according to authoritative sources has spread to the White House.

In a zealously pursued ambition to make available Negroes who could "show the Army" what they can do, Ray came forth with a superior soldier plan which essentially called for purging all Negroes falling in Army intelligence classifications IV and V.

His recommendation followed close on the heels of an Army order banning the volunteer enlistment of Negroes in other than highly technical classifications. Both had the same intent—to reduce Negro representation in the regular Army to the 10 per cent quota recommended by the Gillem Committee. These discriminatory stop-gap measures reduced to a mere trickle the flow of Negroes into the regular Army, which then totaled 16 per cent of all personnel.

Defender

To retrench Negro participation further, the War Department ordered a ban on Negro inductions by Selective Service. This backfired when a suit for the admission of Robert Kelly, a young Negro was filed against the War Department and Selective Service. The suit forced Kelly's admission, only to be followed by new and more exacting specifications for Negro volunteer enlistees. The announcement of the high education requirements set off a barrage of protests in opposition.

Chicago, Ill.

May Dismiss Half

Best estimates are that out of more than 108,000 Negro soldiers in the regular Army on Aug. 1, more than half would be certain of dismissal under Ray's superior soldier plan.

Sat. 11-16-46

Concerned over the consequences of any such drastic action, Julius Thomas, industrial secretary of the National Urban League, conferred informally with War Department officials this week.

Following the conference, Thomas told the Chicago Defender that "the Army has been given the impression that it is burdened with a lot of ignorance. But, I don't get the impression that the intelligence gap between any substantial number of Negro enlistees and a similar number of whites seems to be grounds for some of the drastic measures which seem to be under consideration now."

Thomas said he feels the War Department will revise the interpretation of its order for weeding out of the regular Army all class IV and V men. "I don't expect to see any wholesale number of men dismissed," he assured, adding, "Some over-zealous adviser has lost his perspective."

This latter statement coming from the Urban League official, confirmed a fast-growing and oft-repeated impression here that there is a sharp division between the points of view pressed by Ray and those of top War Department personnel.

Ray has reportedly told Jesse Dedmond, NAACP veterans' secretary, that as long as he satisfies the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff he is not worried.

All-Negro Combat Unit Deactivated At Fort Benning

Defender Chicago, Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—All hopes for the existence of an all-Negro combat outfit in the nation's post-war regular army went glimmering last week when it was learned that the Twenty-fifth Combat Team, formerly stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., has been deactivated.

Sat. 11-30-46

The Twenty-fifth Combat Team, the only such all-Negro outfit in the Regular Army, was composed of an infantry regiment, the 25th, a field artillery battalion and an engineer regiment and was assigned to the Seventh Tactical force.

Although no confirmation was forthcoming from the War Department, it had been generally believed until now that the team had been undergoing final training and tightening up preparatory to assignment to occupation duty under General MacArthur.

THE HIGHWAY:

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Universal Training Setup Poses Question for Youth

By CHARLES H. HOUSTON
Noted Washington Attorney

When Congress convenes, the Government is going to propose a peace-time universal military training law. There is much to be said in favor of universal military training as the most democratic way to divide up the burden and responsibility of national defense.

Sat. 1-4-47

However, there are dangerous loopholes in the War Department plan as far as colored trainees are concerned. This week the plan will be sketched and criticisms will be made next week.

The War Department proposes that every male citizen register for military training on reaching his 17th birthday, and that his military training begin when he is 18 or when he graduates from high school, whichever is later.

Element o Choice

Trainees are given their choice as to branch of service, so far as consistent with established quotas and other military requirements.

The training period is one year, divided into two periods of six months each. The first six months is devoted to basic training. The trainee then has several options for the second six months.

He may remain in continuous training for the second six months; he may enlist in the Regular Army or National Guard, or apply for admission to one of the service academies, or join the Enlisted Reserve Corps.

Schooling Made Possible

The Enlisted Reserved Corps presents the trainee with more choices. He may ask for assignment to a fully organized reserve unit, or he may elect to go to school and take courses designed either to fit him to be a reserve officer or an enlisted specialist.

If he goes at his own expense, he is under no obligation for further service upon completing his course, other than to accept a commission in the Officers Reserve Corps if offered.

1-4-47

However, if he accepts Government aid in his schooling he binds himself on completion of his course to perform such active duty, either as officer or enlisted man, as the President may direct.

No Pure Labor Units

All training programs will be based on a minimum 40-hour week. Trainees will be trained in combat-type units and "service units whose essential operating techniques are peculiar to the Army and cannot be acquired in civilian life."

The Afro-American

"They will not be trained in pure labor type units."

Preference will be given to large Army posts over small ones, but the War Department specifies that climatic conditions must permit year-round training.

Allowances for Self, Dependents

Trainees will not be paid but will be provided with a monthly allowance sufficient for necessities and incidentals. Dependency benefits will be provided for all trainees with dependents.

The Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act, which gives persons while on active military duty certain exemptions from law suits, will be extended to cover trainees during the training period.

Trainees also will be entitled to the benefit of Government life insurance. Hospitalization and medical care will be furnished by the Army.

Differences in Discipline

The status of the trainee is not the same as that of a Regular Army man, and has some elements of civilian life attached to it. For example, trainees will not be subject to regular Army courts-martial, but will be governed by a specially drawn Code of Conduct.

Baltimore, Md.

Minor offenses will be tried by

Many questions present themselves at once. Some, remember, are looking to the older men and women who have had experience in combat. Is the Government going to provide trainee training, the trainee will be conducted at segregated installations. Units of whom will be leaving home for the first time, against local discrimination on trains and buses, with the Army to give the protection and guidance. The old-timers must not fail them!

What is the Government going to do about colored trainees joining the National Guard in States which want only white National Guard units? What quotas are imposed on colored trainees and how will these quotas work?

The mere fact that colored units will be trained with white units is no guarantee they will get the same training.

Do we want universal military training if the price is to fasten a pattern of segregation on high school youth in States where there is no segregation in the public schools?

The youngsters in their teens

Training Guarantees Sought

No Separate Installations

Of special interest is the War Department announcement: "The training of colored personnel will not be conducted at segregated installations. Units of colored personnel will be trained as a part of composite organizations."

62b 1946 U. S. Army (General)

500 Negro High School Graduates Enlist With Army

Opportunity To Later Enter College Is Lure

Black Dispatch

More than 500 youthful Negroes, between the ages of 17 and 18 have volunteered in the United States army in the past few weeks declared recruiting Sgt. B. M. Howell, of the United States Recruiting Main Station, Room 323, Federal building, Oklahoma City, Tuesday in telephone conversation with a representative of the Black Dispatch. Sat 6-8-46

"Most of them are high school boys, and they say they are inclined to accept the government's liberal offer just now because most of the colleges are crowded, and they cannot enroll. They know too, that after 18 months in the army as volunteers, they will have the same rights as war veterans" Sgt. Howell said. Okla. City, Okla.

The base pay for a volunteer, according to Howell, is $50.00, with an added increase of 20 per cent for oversea duty. The recruiting officer said that after 18 months service the volunteer would be eligible for 30 months college training at government expense. Two years enlistment brings a grant of 36 months college training while a Black Dispatch three years carries a grant of 48 months. Sat. 6-8-46

Howell said the disposition to enter the army as volunteers was not something wholly incident to Negro high school graduates, "the white boys are showing about the same inclination and ration of choice and identical reasons for entering the service" Howell said.

Combat Unit School Opens

Defender 7-27-46

FORT BENNING, Ga.—The two-year program to raise the 25th Combat Team's educational standard for enlisted men to eighth grade level got under way here recently with 1900 soldier students attending classes. Chicago, Ill.

1-10 Population Ratio Ignored as Regular Army Takes 1 in 6

The Afro American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-13-46

WASHINGTON

For every five white men being signed up in the intensive recruiting campaign of the Regular Army, one colored volunteer is being taken in, according to an announcement by the War Department on July 1.

The 1 to 5 ratio, however, is at great variance with the plan outlined in March by the War Department, which revealed at that time that the "accepted ratio for creating a troop basis in the post-war Army" would be 1 to 10 or the proportion of colored to white persons in the civilian population.

Refusing to make a comment on the recruiting trend until a later date, department officials stated simply that "all comers" were being accepted, with individual qualifications as the sole basis.

Promoted

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

MAJOR CHARLES THOMAS, of Detroit, who was promoted to his present rank last month in line with a War Department ruling which permits elevation in rank provided the individual was a combat casualty. He served with the 761st Tank Battalion and was hospitalized 18 months. He is author of a column for veterans which appears weekly in the Sat. AFRO. 11-2-46

New Army Battalion Activated at Ft. Bliss

The Afro American Baltimore, Md. Sat.

FORT BLISS, Texas — Activation ceremonies, featuring the presentation of the battalion colors and a review, welcomed the 450th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion to this installation, early this month.

The new organization is made up of 661 colored enlisted men the majority of whom are Regular Army enlistees, who served with various other types of units during the war. 7-27-46

Gen. B. O. Davis Takes New Post

Chicago, Ill. Chicago Defender

Named Assistant To Inspector General

Sat 1-19-46

WASHINGTON—Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, after a 45-day leave of absence, following a tour of duty in the European theater, has assumed his duties as assistant to the Inspector General, Lieutenant General Dan I. Sultan, with offices in the Munitions Building, the War Department announced this week.

General Davis returned to the States in November, 1945, after having been relieved of duty as special assistant to the Inspector General of the European Theater of Operations, Major General Everett S. Hughes. He had been stationed at Theater Service Forces, European Theater (TSFET) Headquarters in Paris.

General Davis, who was retired as a regular army colonel on July 31, 1941, about eight months after his promotion to the temporary rank of brigadier general (Oct. 25, 1940), was recalled to active the following day. He was assigned to the European Theater in September, 1942, for a month's temporary duty as advisor on Negro problems. He returned to Washington and was assigned to the Office of the Inspector General.

Wins French Medal

General Davis returned to the European Theater on July 11, 1944, and in November of that year became special assistant to the Commanding General, Communications Zone, ETO, with Headquarters at Paris.

For his service in France the French Government awarded General Davis the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre with palm. In addition he also wears the Distinguished Service Medal awarded to him for his exceptionally meritorious service to the United States Government as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops. Sat 1-19-46

He was cited for "conducting countless investigations concerning individual soldiers, troop units and other components of the War Department "which contributed to bringing about a "fair and equitable solution to many important problems which have since become the basis of far-reaching War Department policy."

General Davis, whose home is 1721 S. street, N.W., Washington, D. C., is completing 47 years of service in the United States Army. He entered the military service on July 13, 1898, during the war with Spain, as a temporary first lieutenant of the Eighth United States Infantry. He was commissioned a second lieutenant of Cavalry in the Regular Army on February 2, 1901.

Army Gets Negro Combat Team

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

New Unit To March In Army Day Parade

Sat 3-30-46

WASHINGTON—A new Negro combat team has been formed at Ft. Benning, Ga., under the terms of the recent Gillem report, the War Department disclosed Monday.

The officer personnel is mixed, but the enlisted personnel is all Negro, the announcement revealed. Officers were not identified.

Designated the 407th Combat team, the new army unit is composed of a regiment of the infantry, a battalion of field artillery and elements of the signal and engineer corps.

Army Day Parade

Meanwhile, the War Department is considering bringing the combat team to Washington to participate in the Army Day parade here April 6.

Army Day parades are scheduled to be held in Chicago, San Francisco and San Antonio as well as in the Capital.

Originally, the only colored troops scheduled to march was the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, which will parade in Chicago.

Protest Exclusion

However, a flood of protests to the War Department, the Bureau of Public Relations, and Marcus Ray, civilian aide to the Secretary of War brought a revision of plans. The protests were reported to be concerned over the reaction of Negroes if colored troops were not included in the Washington parade.

Another War Department announcement disclosed national guard recruiting of discharged veterans. They may re-enlist now in the state guard by application to the state adjutant general in the same grade they held at the time of discharge from the army, subject to state regulations and allocations.

Col. Marcus H. Ray, civilian aide to the secretary of war, urged Negroes to act immediately in order to be included in the war department's new national guard program. A meeting of all former national guard officers will be held on April 20, under the sponsorship of Col. Dawes, he said.

He recommended formation of a citizens committee to draw up plans for Negro participation in Illinois and other states.

THEY'RE IN THE ARMY TO STAY

Army Fears Too Many Negro Enlistments

Chicago Defender (Defender Washington Bureau) Saturday

WASHINGTON — The large number of Negro GIs enlisting in the Regular Army of the United States is causing the War Department a great deal of concern.

While it is said that this concern stems from the low educational qualifications of many of the men accepted, 90 per cent of those who have enlisted to date coming from the South, there is also indication that the War Department envisions an Army proportionately Negro, the department also faces the reality of a large number of Negro GIs assigned to theaters of operation as members of armies of occupation, and the resultant fraternization these men with European women. Crow with little opportunity for

As of November 30, Negro soldiers enlisting in the Regular Army numbered 37,343 or 14 per cent of the total enlistees which then numbered 261,705. Estimation now indicates that this number of Negro GIs has topped the 50,000 mark.

Concerned with the possibility of a boomerang which may end in the generalization "Negro soldiers cannot absorb training," it is said that Marcus Ray, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War has requested that the Army general assignment to Europe also.

While it is said that the men re-enlisting re-

Charges that Negro GIs are being expelled from the armies of

Records show that approximately 85 per cent of men enlisting in classes II and III from getting in and living up to the special requirements of the service. It is believed that this factor will serve to offset continued opportunities for Negro enlistees at a later date.

It is said that the Army will resort to a more careful screening when the emergency is passed.

He said the Army had to get men for replacements, and get them fast. This speed forestalls the careful selection of enlistees due to the emergency involved. As a result, large numbers of Negro GIs falling in educational classes IV and V coming largely from service units are swelling

Regular Army is to train technicians, specialists and instructors, and added: "I will resist the acceptance of below standard enlistees."

specific mission of the peace-time

771

occupation in the European Theater were not confirmed by the Civilian Aide. He said there is nothing in the station list which would indicate a mass movement of Negroes from that theater as part of the army of occupation.

However, another source in the War Department stated that it would not be surprising to see such a movement initiated in the very near future, promoted largely by white Army officers who oppose the friendships the Negro soldiers are now enjoying with European women. 2-9-46

Total Negro Strength Of Army 372,369

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa

WASHINGTON, D. C.—On Jan. 1, 1946, the total Negro strength of the Army was 372,369, it was announced today by the War Department. This figure represented 8.81 per cent of the total Army strength at that time.

Commissioned officers, flight and warrant officers made up 4,743 of the Negro strength. Of the total, 216,897 were serving overseas. Sat 2-9-46

The Army's "New" Policy

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa

The U. S. Army's announced new policy with regard to Negroes has been greeted without enthusiasm by colored America because there is actually little that is new about it. Sat 2-16-46

True, there are to be no more all-Negro divisions, which is a step in the right direction, but these divisions were never Negro divisions in the full sense of the word.

Negro divisions consisted of Negro enlisted men and line officers, but all higher commanders were white, and this type of unit lent itself to effective jim-crow practices.

In place of the Negro divisions, we are to have smaller all-Negro units—regiments, battalions, companies, batteries, platoons, etc., commanded by Negroes and spotted throughout the Army in juxtaposition to white units.

There is nothing new about this, the British having long used the system in the Indian Army, while the Americans did like wise during the Spanish-American War.

There is also nothing new about the decision not to send Negro units where local citizens disapprove, for this has always been the policy of the American Army and explains why Negro units have usually been stationed outside the South during times of peace.

On the basis of the Army's board finding that Negro units were employed most successfully during the late war when closely associated with white units should have encouraged the recommendation of a bolder policy of complete integration, doing away with Negro units altogether and simply having American units composed of all classes, colors and creeds.

Apparently the U. S. Army is not yet ready to practice the democracy for which it supposedly fought and for which hundreds of thousands of American youth died.

The Army Sees the Light

afro American Baltimore, Md

Announcement this week that the Army is abandoning its traditional jim-crow pattern will be hailed in many quarters as the most important forward step taken by the War Department in its entire history. Sat 3-9-46

This break with tradition, whereby segregation of colored Americans in separate Army units "will not be required as a matter of policy," while hailed by Secretary of War Robert Patterson as a "notable contribution to the military policy of the United States," does not mean, however, that these separate units will disappear overnight.

Rather, it means that in its long-range planning, the Army, through a broader utilization of manpower based upon ability instead of color, anticipates the building of the strongest possible organization in the interests of the national security.

Obviously, the implementation of such a changed policy must depend in large measure upon commanders in the field and upon the successful indoctrination of all ranks throughout the service looking toward unreserved acceptance of the provision of the new policy.

Assistant Secretary Howard C. Peterson, upon whose shoulders will fall much of the responsibility for implementation of the policy, said to newspaper publishers:

"Basically, I think we all understand that there can be no single magic solution of the Army's problems in the racial field. The problem must be viewed as one of bringing about a continuing and progressive development. The important thing is that the objective should be agreed upon and that the initial steps should constitute a firm foundation for further progress."

Concerning the intermediate steps leading to the attainment of the Army's ultimate objective, there may be disagreement, but viewing the project in its entirety, it appears that the War Department is upon firm ground.

The use of composite and mixed fighting groups in Europe during World War II demonstrated with finality the possibilities of this type of co-operative effort and this, plus the testimony of Army and civilian witnesses appearing before the board headed by Lt. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem Jr., played an important part in the Army's final decision.

The AFRO has insisted all along that the Army, by its refusal to utilize all available manpower on the basis of ability was impairing its own efficiency. It has long insisted that lack of adequate leadership and opportunity stood as stumbling blocks in the path of colored Americans eager to shoulder their share of responsibilities and to demonstrate their capabilities.

That the press made any contribution in pointing out the inequalities and injustices of past War Department policies and practices is incidental. We believe that the Army is headed in the right direction and recommend that its sister services also get in step.

Negro Units For AORC Authorized

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25—(AP)—Formation of 315 units of the Army's Organized Reserve Corps with exclusive Negro personnel was authorized today by General Jacob L. Devers, ground forces commander.

Many will be combat outfits, but in accordance with a new postwar policy to limit the size of Negro units, none will be larger than a regiment—some 3,500 men.

With a full complement of officers and enlisted men, all will be equipped and trained to be ready for active service in the event of an emergency.

The authorized units were distributed among the six field armies of the land forces' postwar defense organization, with the largest number assigned to Eastern and Southern States.

The largest single unit listed is an infantry regiment to be assigned to a division of the Second Army, whose area is Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

Walter White

Chicago Defender

Most GIs Want Out

Chicago, Ill.

THE OTHER NIGHT after speaking to the Palmetto State Teachers Association in Columbia, S.C., a reception was given at the attractive USO. Among the guests were a number of Negro veterans. Firmly, at times almost belligerently, they challenged an answer I had given to a question as to whether or not the majority of Negro soldiers wanted to remain in the Army. I had expressed the opinion, based upon firsthand contact with a good many thousands of soldiers, that they hated the color line in the armed services so bitterly that they wanted to get out as soon as possible. Sat. 2-16-46

One young man who used a rolled newspaper to emphasize his point and who I had last seen on Guam declared that many Negro soldiers wanted to stay in uniform for almost the sole reason that doing so would enable them as occupation troops to live anywhere on earth except in their own United States. Such a desire, which this young man assured us was shared not by a minority but by a majority of the soldiers he knew, is a perfectly understandab

People, Politics And Places

action by men who, returning from war overseas find little change in the "place" they as Negroes are supposed to be content in occupying. His assertion is backed up by the recent poll taken among Negro soldiers in Germany who felt that they were treated with more genuine friendship and democracy by the people who but lately were the guinea pigs of Hitler's Nazi racial theories than they would in the "democracy" which had won the shooting war.

A Frightening Indictment

HOWEVER justifiable and understandable such emotions are, they are at one and the same time a frightening indictment of the United States and a regrettable development among Negro youth. One cannot blame them altogether for indulging in what is escapism. But there are two quite sound reasons why it is to be hoped that not many Negroes will believe that they can long escape problems in this fashion.

The first is that Europe is physically, spiritually, mentally and economically down and out. The overwhelming majority of Europeans would want nothing so much as to escape from there and come to America or almost any country where the outlook is not so bleak and hopeless. Particularly is this true among the best informed Europeans who frankly are cynical about the hope of averting another war. They just don't want again to be in the path of armies and again the target of bombers. Unless one can earn a reasonably decent living and be assured of at least moderate security for himself and family, there is small comfort in other advantages.

Refuse To Surrender

Sat. 3-16-46

THE SECOND reason I don't believe more than a minority of Negro soldiers want to stay in the armies of occupation is because most of them realize that one, two, five or ten years spent overseas will throw them just that much further behind in the struggle for jobs, advancement in their professions or trades, establishment of homes and families, and the building of places for themselves in society. Most of those I have talked with are fighting mad about discrimination and racial proscription. They are determined

to fight it out right here—and to win—to surrender it to the Bilbos and their equity in America by default.

ARMY MAINTAINS NEGRO-WHITE RATIO

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—(AP)—Secretary of War Patterson said

occupation in the European Theater were not confirmed by the Civilian Aide. He said there is nothing in the station list which would indicate a mass movement of Negroes from that theater as part of the army of occupation.

However, another source in the War Department stated that it would not be surprising to see such a movement initiated in the very near future, promoted largely by white Army officers who oppose the friendships the Negro soldiers are now enjoying with European women. 2-9-46

Total Negro Strength Of Army 372,369

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—On Jan. 1, 1946, the total Negro strength of the Army was 372,369, it was announced today by the War Department. This figure represented 8.81 per cent of the total Army strength at that time.

Commissioned officers, flight and warrant officers made up 4,743 of the Negro strength. Of the total, 216,897 were serving overseas. Sat 2-9-46

The Army's "New" Policy

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

The U. S. Army's announced new policy with regard to Negroes has been greeted without enthusiasm by colored America because there is actually little that is new about it. Sat 3-16-46

True, there are to be no more all-Negro divisions, which is a step in the right direction, but these divisions were never Negro divisions in the full sense of the word.

Negro divisions consisted of Negro enlisted men and line officers, but all higher commanders were white, and this type of unit lent itself to effective jim-crow practices.

In place of the Negro divisions, we are to have smaller all-Negro units—regiments, battalions, companies, batteries, platoons, etc., commanded by Negroes and spotted throughout the Army in juxtaposition to white units.

There is nothing new about this, the British having long used the system in the Indian Army, while the Americans did like wise during the Spanish-American War.

There is also nothing new about the decision not to send Negro units where local citizens disapprove, for this has always been the policy of the American Army and explains why Negro units have usually been stationed outside the South during times of peace.

On the basis of the Army's board finding that Negro units were employed most successfully during the late war when closely associated with white units should have encouraged the recommendation of a bolder policy of complete integration, doing away with Negro units altogether and simply having American units composed of all classes, colors and creeds.

Apparently the U. S. Army is not yet ready to practice the democracy for which it supposedly fought and for which hundreds of thousands of American youth died.

The Army Sees the Light

Afro American Baltimore, Md

Announcement this week that the Army is abandoning its traditional jim-crow pattern will be hailed in many quarters as the most important forward step taken by the War Department in its entire history. Sat 3-9-46

This break with tradition, whereby segregation of colored Americans in separate Army units "will not be required as a matter of policy," while hailed by Secretary of War Robert Patterson as a "notable contribution to the military policy of the United States," does not mean, however, that these separate units will disappear overnight.

Rather, it means that in its long-range planning, the Army, through a broader utilization of manpower based upon ability instead of color, anticipates the building of the strongest possible organization in the interests of the national security.

Obviously, the implementation of such a changed policy must depend in large measure upon commanders in the field and upon the successful indoctrination of all ranks throughout the service looking toward unreserved acceptance of the provision of the new policy.

Assistant Secretary Howard C. Peterson, upon whose shoulders will fall much of the responsibility for implementation of the policy, said to newspaper publishers:

"Basically, I think we all understand that there can be no single magic solution of the Army's problems in the racial field. The problem must be viewed as one of bringing about a continuing and progressive development. The important thing is that the objective should be agreed upon and that the initial steps should constitute a firm foundation for further progress."

Concerning the intermediate steps leading to the attainment of the Army's ultimate objective, there may be disagreement, but viewing the project in its entirety, it appears that the War Department is upon firm ground.

The use of composite and mixed fighting groups in Europe during World War II demonstrated with finality the possibilities of this type of co-operative effort and this, plus the testimony of Army and civilian witnesses appearing before the board headed by Lt. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem Jr., played an important part in the Army's final decision.

The AFRO has insisted all along that the Army, by its refusal to utilize all available manpower on the basis of ability was impairing its own efficiency. It has long insisted that lack of adequate leadership and opportunity stood as stumbling blocks in the path of colored Americans eager to shoulder their share of responsibilities and to demonstrate their capabilities.

That the press made any contribution in pointing out the inequalities and injustices of past War Department policies and practices is incidental. We believe that the Army is headed in the right direction and recommend that its sister services also get in step.

Negro Units For AORC Authorized

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25—(AP)—Formation of 315 units of the Army's Organized Reserve Corps with exclusive Negro personnel was authorized today by General Jacob L. Devers, ground forces commander.

Many will be combat outfits, but in accordance with a new postwar policy to limit the size of Negro units, none will be larger than a regiment—some 3,500 men.

With a full complement of officers and enlisted men, all will be equipped and trained to be ready for active service in the event of an emergency.

The authorized units were distributed among the six field armies of the land forces' postwar defense organization, with the largest number assigned to Eastern and Southern States.

The largest single unit listed is an infantry regiment to be assigned to a division of the Second Army, whose area is Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

Walter White

People, Politics And Places

Chicago Defender

Most GIs Want Out Chicago, Ill.

THE OTHER NIGHT after speaking to the Palmetto State Teachers Association in Columbia, S.C., a reception was given at the attractive USO. Among the guests were a number of Negro veterans. Firmly, at times almost belligerently, they challenged an answer I had given to a question as to whether or not the majority of Negro soldiers wanted to remain in the Army. I had expressed the opinion, based upon firsthand contact with a good many thousands of soldiers, that they hated the color line in the armed services so bitterly that they wanted to get out as soon as possible. Sat. 3-16-46

One young man who used a rolled newspaper to emphasize his point and who I had last seen on Guam declared that many Negro soldiers wanted to stay in uniform for almost the sole reason that doing so would enable them as occupation troops to live anywhere on earth except in their own United States. Such a desire, which this young man assured us was shared not by a minority but by a majority of the soldiers he knew, is a perfectly understandab' action by men who, returning from war overseas find little change in the "place" they as Negroes are supposed to be content in occupying. His assertion is backed up by the recent poll taken among Negro soldiers in Germany who felt that they were treated with more genuine friendship and democracy by the people who but lately were the guinea pigs of Hitler's Nazi racial theories than they would in the "democracy" which had won the shooting war.

A Frightening Indictment

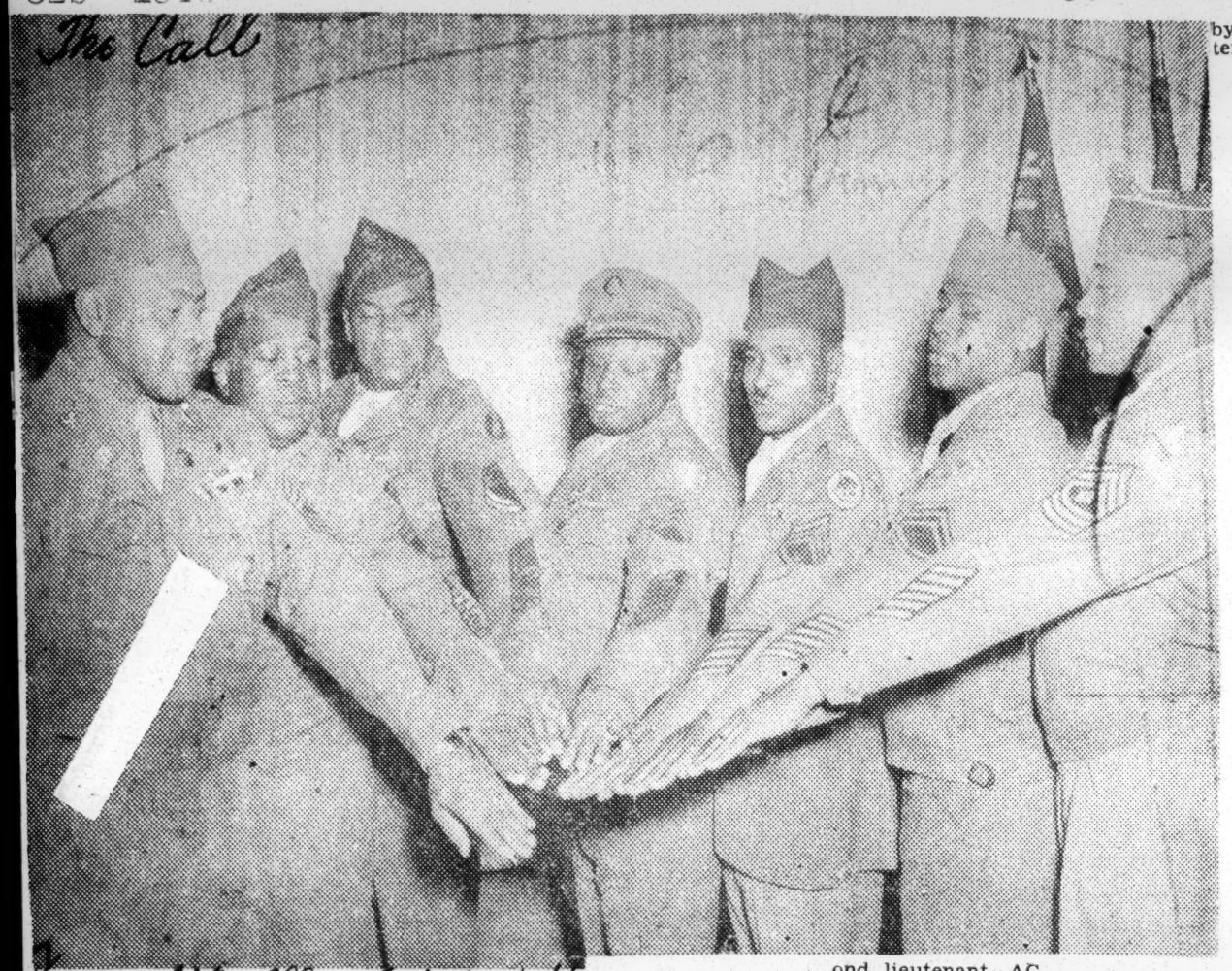
HOWEVER justifiable and understandable such emotions are, they are at one and the same time a frightening indictment of the United States and a regrettable development among Negro youth. One cannot blame them altogether for indulging in what is escapism. But there are two quite sound reasons why it is to be hoped that not many Negroes will believe that they can long escape problems in this fashion.

The first is that Europe is physically, spiritually, mentally and economically down and out. The overwhelming majority of Europeans would want nothing so much as to escape from there and come to America or almost any country where the outlook is not so bleak and hopeless. Particularly is this true among the best informed Europeans who frankly are cynical about the hope of averting another war. They just don't want again to be in the path of armies and again the target of bombers. Unless one can earn a reasonably decent living and be assured of at least moderate security for himself and family, there is small comfort in other advantages.

Refuse To Surrender Sat. 3-16-46

THE SECOND reason I don't believe more than a minority of Negro soldiers want to stay in the armies of occupation is because most of them realize that one, two, five or ten years spent overseas will throw them just that much further behind in the struggle for jobs, advancement in their professions or trades, establishment of homes and families, and the building of places for themselves in society. Most of those I have talked with are fighting mad about discrimination and racial proscription. They are determined to fight it out right here—and to win—to get what the cost. They and their parents have helped build America. They do not propose to surrender it to the Bilbos and thereby lose their equity in America by default.

The Call



Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 11-15-46

ASH MARKS. "Old-Timers" show evidence of loyal service to their country. All now stationed at Ft. Knox, they are, from left to right: 1st/Sgt. Newton T. Lewis of New York city (32 years service); S/Sgt. Robert Prindell of Manhattan, Kas (29 years service); T/Sgt. Walter Ragland of South Boston, Va., (26 years service); S/Sgt. Booker T. Sanders of Eufala Okla, (24 years service); S/Sgt. Hubbert Phillips of Omaha, Neb., (21 years service); S/Sgt. Willie Strickland of Junction City, Kas., (19 years service), and 1st/Sgt. Walter Brown of Columbus, Ga., (18 years service).

—U. S. Signal Corps photo.

31 Given Regular Army

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Rank Out of 9,800 Total

Sat. 7-20-46

WASHINGTON.

Of the 9,800 officers chosen for the Regular Army from more than 100,000 applicants by the most modern and scientific method of selecting leaders, only 31 are colored, according to an official War Department statement released on July 15.

By major Army commands, 12 of the 31 went to the Army Air Forces, 11 to the Army Ground Forces and 8 to the Technical and Administrative Services.

The 31 officers, included in the list of Regular Army nominees which was announced by the War Department on June 28 and confirmed by the Senate on July 3, are:

[ABBREVIATIONS: AC — Air Corps; INF—Infantry; CH—Chaplain; PHC—Pharmacy; FA—Field Artillery; QMC — Quartermaster; CAV—Cavalry.]

First Lt. Lee A. Archer, 350 W. 19th St., New York City, to second lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Bradley Biggs, 687 N. Seventh St., Newark, N.J., to first lieutenant, INF.

First Lt. Matthew D. Branch, 1946 Second St., N.W., Washington, to first lieutenant, INF.

Lt. Col. Nelson S. Brooks, 4642 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, to first lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Robert A. Bryant, 620 S. 16th St., Philadelphia, to captain, CH.

Maj. William A. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., to first lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Elwood T. Driver, 30 Fountain Ave., Trenton, N.J., to first lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Lewis M. Durden, Howard University, Washington, to captain, CH.

Capt. Robert J. Friend, 460 Manhattan Ave., New York City, to second lieutenant, AC.

Capt. William E. Gott, 20 High St., Ridgewood, N.J., to first lieutenant, PHC.

Capt. George E. Gray, 886 McDowell St., Hemphill, W.Va., to first lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Jack D. Holsclaw, 2301 College Ave., Spokane, Wash., to first lieutenant, AC.

Maj. Brannon J. Hopson, Kosciusko, Miss., to major, CH.

First Lt. George J. Iles, 2026 Spruce St., Quincy, Ill., to second lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Andrew L. Johnson, CCC Camp S-132, Norwich, N.Y., to captain, CH.

Maj. Edward C. Johnson, 4119 S. Parkway, Chicago, to captain, INF.

Maj. George L. Knox, 435 Douglas St., Indianapolis, Ind., to first lieutenant, AC.

Maj. Armour C. McDaniel, 804 E. Church St., Martinsville, Va., to 1st lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Alfred E. McWilliams, Box 188, Texas College, Tyler, Tex., to captain, CH.

First Lt. Spurgeon A. Moore, 278 Scott Ave., Akron, O., to second lieutenant, INF.

First Lt. Leonard S. Morgan, 4263 W. North Market St., St. Louis, to first lieutenant, FA.

First Lt. Albert J. Parker, 1121 13th St., Portsmouth, O., to second lieutenant, INF.

Maj. Norman W. Parsons, New Cumberland, W.Va., to captain, CAV.

Capt. Melvin W. Ormes, 609 S. Union Ave., Salem, O., to captain, QMC.

Lt. Col. Harry B. Reubel, 230 W. 147th St., New York City, to major, INF.

Lt. Col. James H. Robinson, 3314 Warder St., N.W., Washington, to major, INF.

Capt. Osborne E. Scott, 15 Booker St., Phoebus, Va., to captain, CH.

Capt. Robert L. Smith, 4204 Oats St., Houston, Tex., to first lieutenant, AC.

Capt. Roy W. Sorrell, 717 Logan St., Brooklyn, N.Y., to captain, INF.

Capt. Charles R. Stanton, 5265 N. Eighth Ave., Portland, Ore., to first lieutenant, AC.

First Lt. Cecil W. White, 1214 Lapsley St., Selma, Ala., to second lieutenant, INF.

IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL!

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 10-19-46

By LOUIS LAUTIER

For thhe NNPA News Service

The report of the Gillem board on the effective utilization of colored personnel in the post-war army is the War Department's Bible in fixing the ratio of colored to white personnel on the basis of that which exists in the general population. Thus, the War Department says there shall not be more than 10 per cent colored personnel in the army.

But nowhere in the Gillem Board's report is it stated that colored men with less than a high school education or a score of 99 on an army general classification test cannot be made into effective soldiers. On the contrary, it contradicts all of the arguments made by Maj. Gen. Willard S. Paul, chief of the personnel division of the army general staff, in making a high school diploma a prerequisite to enlisting. It says:

"Testimony before this board has indicated that units composed largely of personnel classified in the two lowest grades on the A.G.C.T. scale require more officer supervision in training and in the field than units compoosed of personnel of normal distribution. It is concluded, therefore, that attachment of officers to units including abnormal proportions of personnel in Grades IV and V on the A.G.C.T. scale is necessary when time is the critical factor, as it will be under war conditions or under a system of universal military training. This procedure is not necessary in the regular army in peacetime."

Now, either the general staff or the Gillem Board is wrong. If the Gillem Board is wrong, why is it that a white man with an A.G.C.T. score of 70 can make an effective soldier and a colored man cannot?

The use to which the army has put its colored troops has not required a high school educational level, but rather a strong back and not too much intelligence. Certainly it required no AGCT score of 99 to build airfields in Liberia, the Alcan Highway in Alaska, the Ledo (Stilwell) Road in China-Burma; to unload freight in Iran in temperature of 130 degrees for transhipment to Russia; to set up depots in England for the vast quantities of supplies and material needed for the European offensive; to construct bases for Flying Fortresses and Liberators; to supply ammunition and food to their fighting companions, and to make a race course out of the Red Ball highway—so much so that Gen. Brehon Somervell, who was the commanding general of the army service forces, said that the outcome of the battle of France and the fate of the civilized world may have rested upon the skill and stamina of quartermaster truck drivers.

Not all colored men with low AGCT scores were in service units. There is the history of the 761st Tank Battalion. It was committed to combat on November 8, 1944, and except for time consumed during movements from one army to another, and one brief maintenance period, it was continuously engaged until VE-Day. It fought with the Third, Seventh and Ninth armies, moving from army to army and from Normandy to the Third army front under its own power. It fought into Germany from France, Louxembourg, Belgium and Holland. It fought with the Third Army during the Ardennes break through.

Several officers and men had two and three tanks shot or blown out from under them, but these men continued fighting in tanks until the end of the European war. From a technical viewpoint, that is, radio operations and maintenance of vehicles, this battalion was considered the equal of the best tank battalions.

The commanding general of the XII Corps, Maj. Gen. M. S. Eddye, on Dec. 8, 1944, commanded this battalion for its "conspicuous courage and success" in combat. He said:

"The speed with which they adapted themselves to the front line under most adverse weather conditions, the gallantry with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops, and the confident spirit with which they emerged from their recent engagements in the vicinity of Dieuze, Morville les Vic, and Guebling entitle them surely to consider themselves the veteran 761st."

Eight enlisted men won commissions on the battlefield. The decorations and awards received by men of this battalion included six Silver Stars, three of which were awarded posthumously; 30 Bronze Star Medals, three Oak Leaf Clusters to Bronze Stars, 109 Purple Hearts, 33 of which were awarded posthumously, and three Oak Leaf Clusters to the Purple Heart.

Yet 68 per cent of the enlisted personnel of this battalion was classified in Grades IV and V under the army general classification test. But today those men cannot reenlist in the army because they do not hold high school diplomas, although white men having no higher AGCT scores may volunteer. The truth is the army does not want colored personnel and is resorting to subterfuges to keep colored men out.

Exams Tough for Negroes

Army Admits Making Them

PM New York, N.Y. Fri. 10-25-46

By DAVID WOLF NUSSBAUM

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—The War Dept. admitted today that the passing grade for Negroes on pre-enlistment examinations at Army recruiting offices is 39, whereas prospective white enlistees need score only 15. The pre-enlistment is in the nature of an intelligence test.

A high War Dept. official readily agreed that the practice was discriminatory after the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People had made public a letter of protest to War Secretary Patterson.

When the Army, last July, suspended Negro enlistments except in 48 scarce categories, a suit was started seeking an injunction against the action. The suit was filed by Robert Kelly of Washington, represented by Judge William Hastie, governor of the Virgin Islands.

The Army spokesman explained that the discrimination was a natural outgrowth of the Army's quota system for Negroes, but he admitted that its suspension order to the extent of accepting Negroes with high school educations.

The Army settled by recruiting Kelly, and then relaxed a quota system was in itself discriminatory. The Negro quota is 10 per cent.

On Oct. 4, the NAACP protested to Patterson against barring Negroes without high school education since the same qualification was not required of white recruits.

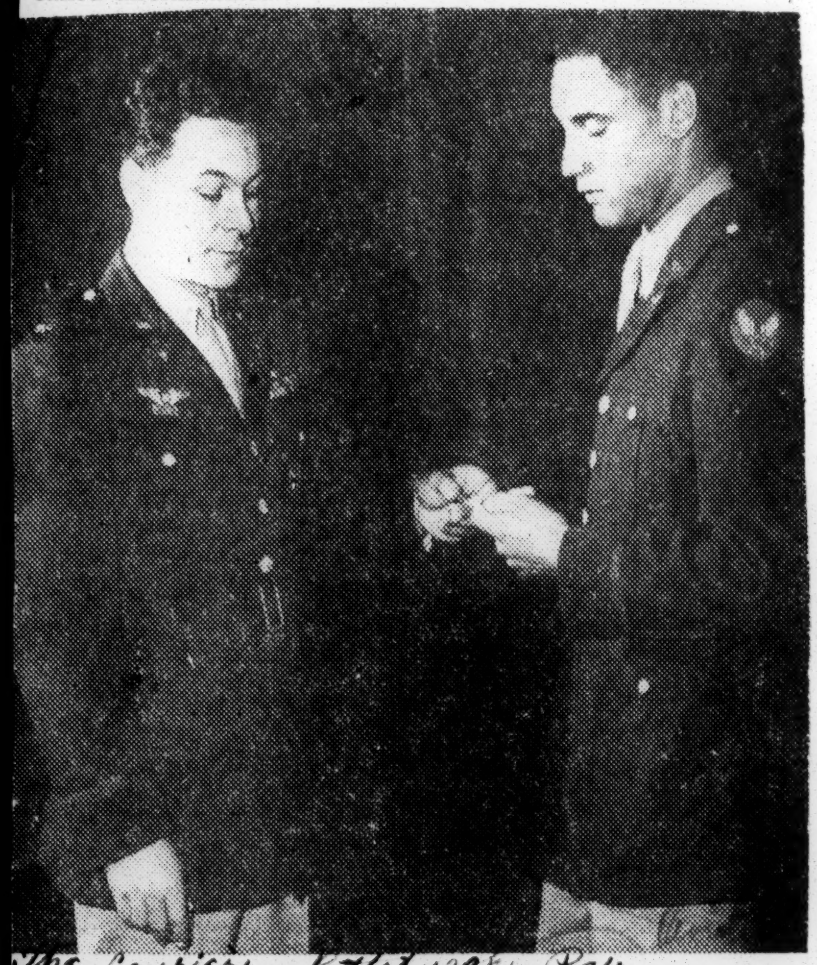
In his reply, Patterson said:

"The initial stages of the voluntary enlistment program provided for the Army an inordinately large percentage of Negro personnel who, relatively speaking, were substandard in mental capabilities.

"The regulations governing resumption of enlistment have been so designed that . . . only average or above-average Negroes will be accepted.

"This procedure is the only feasible method by which standards of the Negro Army population may be raised to a position comparing favorable with the Negro civilian population, in order to provide the necessary fair cross-section." 10-25-46

The secretary added that the program could not be called discriminatory.



The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

FIRST INTEGRATED PILOT—Flight Officer Carl Johnson Jr., Bellaire, Ohio, as he received the silver wings and was rated a pilot at Enid Army Air Field, Enid, Okla. He has been assigned to active duty at the field and becomes the first colored flier to come under the Army's program of integration.—AAF photo. Sat. 11-9-46

Pattern Set for Postwar Use of Negro Soldiers

Pittsburg Courier
Pittsburg, Pa.
Sat 3-9-46

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A significant approach . . . backed by the full weight of top-flight Army General Officers . . . has been made toward "softening up" and ultimately abandoning the restrictive Army jim-crow policy which has channelized all Negroes, regardless of ability, into segregated units.

This action . . . which will become widely known as the Gillem Report . . . resulted from recommendations of the Board of Officers on Utilization of Negro Manpower in the Postwar Army. The board, headed by Lieut. Gen. Alvin C. Gillem, had been directed by Scretary of War Robert P. Patterson last October, to "study and make recommendations" on the future utilization of Negroes in the Army.

Highlighting the report and recommendations, released last Friday, were the following:

1—Continuation of the groupings of Negro units with white units in composite organizations.

2—Continuation of policy of no discrimination and segregation as regards transportation and recreation; and that Negro units be stationed where community attitudes are most favorable, unless military necessity and national security dictates otherwise.

3—That Negro units are not to exceed that of an infantry regiment (approximately 2,700 men) in strength.

4—That combat and service units be organized from available Negro manpower.

5—That a quota system be established on the basis of the proportion existing in the civilian population.

6—That the War Department take steps to insure indoctrination of all ranks throughout the service as to the necessity of unreserved acceptance of the policy; and that steps be taken to rescind such laws and official publications as are in conflict therewith; and that the policy be made public.

Significant among the basic and immediate weaknesses pointed out by observers who have read and analyzed the recommendations are the following:

1—There is no statement on the issue of segregation.

2—The organization of units of no greater strength than regiments eliminates the formation of divisions and divisional commanders.

3—Establishment of the "quota system" for Negroes prohibits the full utilization of all the available manpower of the Nation.

4—Experimental composite units not only be continued, but the recommendations could very easily have asked that they be expanded in number and use.

5—If exceptions of location in the training of troops are made, as the result of military necessity and national security, then local populations should be instructed as to the treatment of the troops wearing the U. S. uniform . . . ALSO on the basis of military necessity and national security.

6—Offer more and better opportunities for Negro appointees to West Point. Sat 3-9-46

PATTERSON LAUDS NEGRO SOLDIERS

The results of five months of study by General Gillem and his two associates were released at a luncheon Friday honoring the executive committee of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association. In presenting the report to the newsmen, Secretary Patterson, the host, after lauding the contribution of Negro troops to the victorious allied cause said, "the Army is not a static organization. Its greatest strength is in the ability to profit by experience."

He continued in his remarks: "In this war we have had an unparalled experience in the use of Negro troops, since the Negro participation was greater in this war than in any other war in our history. In order to make the best possible use of that experience while it was still fresh in our minds, I directed, in October of this year, that a board of officers be constituted to study and make recommendations on the utilization of Negro manpower in the postwar Army. Underlying this direction was the realization that the problems, from the point of view of the Army, is basically that of finding how to make the most efficient military use of the very substantial element of the Nation's manpower represented by Negroes. Accordingly, we selected for the Board distingunshed general officers experienced in combat, command and Army administration.

TOP-FLIGHT OFFICERS COMPOSED BOARD

"Heading the Board was one of our ablest Generals, Lieut. Gen. A. C. Gillem, a former enlisted man, who rose from the ranks to become an outstanding Corps Commander on the Western Front. Many of you will remember him as your host at a luncheon at Fort Knox on the day of his departure for an important overseas assignment. Sat 3-9-46

"The second member was Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, the builder of the Ledo Road and one of our distinguished engineers, now in charge of the tremendous Missouri Valley improvement project. Representing the Army Air Forces was Brig. Gen. Winslow C. Morse, who has had extensive experience and a fine record in commanding overseas airbases. From the composition of the Board, you will recognize that we wanted, and got, top-flight officers to deal with this important problem.

GENERAL EISENHOWER APPROVES REPORT

"The Board undertook a comprehensive study of all phases of the problem. First-hand information was obtained on the performance of Negro troops and on the important changes that have taken place in the Negro's position in the American economy, particularly in education, development of special skills and participation in industry. The Board heard the testimony of white and Negro officers, many of them flown from overseas directly for this purpose. Among the witnesses was a Negro sergeant, who had fought successfully with one of the integrated platoons on the Western Front. The Board also heard testimony from a large number of civilian leaders, white and Negro, including the president of this association, Mr. Stanley, Walter White, Judge William Hastie, Charles Houston, Dr. Frederick Patterson, Dr. Will Alexander, A. A. Liveright and others.

On the basis of this study, the board recommended a program of immediate steps, which constituted a line of departure toward the achievement of the long-term objective stated in the report. The implementation of this program in the War Department will be under the supervision of the assistant secretary of war, Mr. Petersen, and will be a direct responsibility of the assistant chief of staff, G-I, General Paul, both of whom you will hear from in a few moments. I regard the report of the Gillem Board as a significant step in the development of Army personnel policies. I have, accordingly, on the recommendation of the chief of staff, General Eisenhower, directed that its recommendations be put into effect."

BOARD AVOIDED RIGID POLICY

Assistant Secretary of War Howard C. Petersen was introduced by the chairman of the meeting, Marcus H. Ray, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, as the War Department official who would be in immediate charge of the implementation of the report of the Gillem Board.

Mr. Petersen said, "I think we will understand that there can be no single magic solution to the Army's problems in the racial field." He continued, "The problem must be viewed, as the board has done, as one of bringing about a continuing and progressive development. The important thing is that the objective should be agreed upon and that the initial steps should constitute a firm foundation for future progress.

"I think that you will find that this has been the approach of the board. They have not thought it possible to lay down a rigid formula to govern all stages of future development. One of the lessons we have learned from our past experience is that we must avoid such rigidity in our thinking and in our policy.

SOME ASSIGNMENTS IN MIXED UNITS

"The board, in the study that the secretary has described, has recommended a program of broader utilization of Negro manpower in the postwar Army, with increased emphasis on assignment of officers and men on the basis of ability, and the use, as a matter of policy, of composite and mixed units. Segregation of Negroes into separate units will not be required as a matter of policy, although it is anticipated that for some time most Negroes will be used in Negro units, often constituting part of larger white or composite units. There should be far more frequent assignment of individual Negroes with special skills to over-head and special units without regard to race.

"I agree with the objectives stated in the report of the board and I believe that it constitutes a sound basis for future planning. To carry these policies into effect, the Army will need the support of Negroes, including the Negro Press, and I will welcome the opportunity of discussing with you in the future the specific problems that are bound to arise."

PROMISES SUPPORT OF NEGRO PRESS

Frank L. Stanley, publisher of the Louisville, Ky., Defender, and president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association responded on behalf of the luncheon guests. He stated that "all Negroes and certainly the Negro Press would fully support the War Department

In discussing the Gillem Report the past policy of segregation, he said, "This report is of import-rejecting all of these stereotyped ange not alone for what it did, what the board approaches and showing clearly white and Negro soldiers. The board that the rigid policy of segregation Department officials said they were did. by many wit had failed, the Gillem Board made exceedingly anxious to make the widely held in a distinct contribution toward the picture available for public screen-groes were in building of a truly democratic ings. They are attempting to se-other soldiers. Army." cure clearance from the motion e many alleged SHOWN FILM picture companies that permitted porting to show At the conclusion of the lunch- the use of material that belonged were no good eon the newsmen were shown the race. Also of new War Department film, "Team statement that Work." This film, just completed pciological labo by the Army, was written by Carl- should continue ton Moss. It graphically revealed

3-9-46

U. S. Army (General)

Army Suspends Negro Enlistments; Sets 'Quota'

D. M. New York, N.Y.

All but Skilled Few Barred Despite Draft Manpower Shortage

Enlistment by Negroes in the U. S. Army was virtually barred today by a War Dept. directive suspending their recruitment except in cases where they qualify for classification among 48 specialist categories.

The color line announcement was made in the face of a warning to draft boards yesterday by Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey that we are scraping the bottom of the manpower barrel; that deferments must be refused except for "those few registrants . . . indispensable and irreplaceable to the National existence" and farmers.

The War Dept's. explanation: an "overwhelming response" by Negroes, some 140,000 having enlisted since last Fall at the rate of approximately one to each five recruits.

Wed 7-17-46

Army policy has been to limit Negro enlistments to the one-to-10 civilian ratio. As the War Dept. explained it, this quota has been "greatly over-subscribed and the Negro troops who enlisted for the announcement to choose between them the choice between shipping to the Pacific or to Jackson, S. C., distribution point for U. S. service.

THE INFORMATION:
The War Dept (TAG) informed the C.O., Camp Lee, Va. 21 June 46 that all Negro personnel who enlisted with a choice of theater may now be sent only to the Pacific Theater or to Jackson, S. C. because theater requirements, except Pacific, have been met.
THE SITUATION:
I have been advised this date that all Negro Personnel having enlisted for three years with a choice of theater other than the Pacific Theater must now choose either the Pacific Theater or indicate a desire to go to Jackson, S. C.

A first check showed that Army Information Service here was unaware of any such ban. A call to War Dept. public relations service at Washington brought word that all enlistments for ETO, certain specialists excepted, were stopped in May because quotas were full.

The bureau chief conceded that white troops who enlisted for ETO before May were still being shipped, but said no similar concession was being made for fellow Negro soldiers. The Negro "quota" was full—period.

PM checked at Whitehall recruiting headquarters in New York. Just what "specialties" were open for Negro enlistments? Below are some listed:

- Draftsman
- Surveyor
- Medical technician
- Dental Technician

Wed 7-17-46

ETO were instructed via this Pacific and U. S. duty.

- Cable splicer.

It's conceivable that Negroes turned to the Army when Fair Employment Practices Committee protection was denied them by the filibuster death of a permanent FEPC. Now the Army has been closed to them.

Army found itself unable to continue uncontrolled enlistment."

Justification was attempted. Enlistments have been suspended, not cut off entirely, the War Dept. said, and added:

"It is expected that as a result of expiration of enlistments, Negro Army strength will be reduced to an extent where enlistments can profitably be resumed."

Yesterday's War Dept. announcement came while PM was investigating a less publicized discriminatory Army ban against further shipment of Negro troops to the European Theater.

First word of the ban was in a mimeographed form from the 9136 Technical Service Unit, Quartermaster Corps Training Center, Camp Lee, Va., distributed to Negroes who had enlisted for ETO duty. It advised that they could no longer enlist for ETO; gave

ACCORDING TO ANNOUNCEMENT by the War Department, Maj. William A. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., is one of 31 Negro officers who have received permanent rank in the Army. Maj. Campbell received permanent rank of first lieutenant in the air corps. Maj. Brannon J. Hopson, Kosciusko, Miss., received the permanent rank of major in the chaplain corps.

Tuskegee, Birmingham, Ala.

W.Va. Prexy On Army Committee

The Chronicle
Detroit, Mich. Sat. 10-12-46

INSTITUTE, W.Va.—Dr. John W. Davis, president of West Virginia State College, was appointed by Governor Meadows a member of the new-created state army advisory committee. This group, consisting of 21 members, held its first meeting in the state supreme court chamber on Sept. 28. The chief duties of the committee, as outlined by Col. John E. McMahon Jr., would be to study and make recommendations for military improvements of the state, serve as a liaison group for the army and general public, lending aid to army sponsored endeavors, such as the ROTC and the national guard.

Negro Army Unit To Hold Reunion

Spartanburg, Aug. 27—The 371st Infantry regiment, a World War I Negro unit with white officers, will hold a reunion here on Armistice Day, November 11.

The 371st, known for its outstanding war record, had planned the reunion for September 2, but the time was changed to avoid conflict with harvesting of crops, since many of the members now are farmers.

Negro Volunteers Flocking Into Army

Tues. Birmingham Ala.

WASHINGTON, July 2 — (AP) — The War Department disclosed without comment yesterday that Negro volunteers were being signed up in the regular Army's intensive recruiting campaign on a ratio of one to five with white soldiers.

Under an official policy announced in March the "accepted ratio for creating a troop basis in the postwar Army" was to be the 1-to-10 proportion of Negroes to whites in the civilian population.

In disclosing the current recruiting trend officials said merely that "all comers" were being accepted for the time being on the basis of individual qualifiation, but suggested that a statement might be forthcoming later. Tues. 7-2-46

Negro Reserve Units Authorized by Army

Times-Union
Jacksonville, Fla.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. (AP)—Formation of 315 units of the Army's Organized Reserve Corps with exclusively negro personnel was authorized today by Gen. Jacob L. Devers, ground forces commander.

Mon 8-26-46

Many will be combat outfits but in accordance with a new post-war policy to limit the size of negro units, none will be larger than a regiment—some 3,500 men.

With a full complement of officers and enlisted men, all will be equipped and trained to be ready for active service in the event of an emergency.

The authorized units were distributed among the six field armies of the land forces' post-war defense organization, with the largest number assigned to Eastern and Southern states.

ONLY SEVEN OF THE scores Birmingham News, Ala.
of Negro flying officers at Lockburne Field, Ohio, according to report, have been named officers in the regular Army. Birmingham Ala

Those reported to have received appointments included one lieutenant colonel and six majors. Among those slated for regular duty are Lt. Col. Nelson Brooks and Majs. Campbell, Stanton, Holtzclaw, Smith, Gatt and Knox. Each was named to the rank of first lieutenant. Sun. 7-14-46

Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., will not be affected. The colonel, a graduate of West Point, is already in the regular Army.

Devers Okehs 315 Units Of Negro Reserve Corps

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—(AP)—Formation of 315 units of the Army's Organized Reserve Corps with exclusively Negro personnel was authorized today by Gen Jacob L. Devers, ground forces commander.

Many will be combat outfits but in accordance with a new postwar policy to limit the size of Negro units, none will be larger than a regiment—some 3,500 men. Mon. 8-26-46

With a full complement of officers and enlisted men, all will be equipped and trained to be ready for active service in the event of an emergency.

THE ARMY has grown to such Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
size that no more assignments Mon 9-12-46
are being made to the Mediterranean and European theaters. All enlistment of Negroes has been halted. A total of 62,493 joined the Army in June, which was 20,000 above War Department average needs. There is now talk of postponing the draft. Draft extension was demanded by the Army under the pretense of taking care of American commitments.

N.Y. Officer Assigned to Armoured Staff in Ky.

The Afro-American
10-19-46

FORT KNOX, Ky.—(ANP) — One of the newly organized armored units at this post, the 777th Field Artillery Battalion, recently added 1st Lt. Jesse Hickman of Riverhead, N.Y., to its staff. Sat.

Hickman entered the service in 1941 and OCS in 1942. He volunteered for foreign duty and upon his return from overseas was placed on inactive status until his recall. Baltimore, Md.

25th Regiment Given Colors at Fort Benning

The Afro-American

FORT BENNING, Ga. —The storied past of the 25th Infantry Regiment was recalled here this month with the presentation of regimental colors to that unit in ceremonies at Sand Hill parade grounds. 10-26-46

A total of 30 battle rings adorned the colors, representing the number of actions the regiment has participated in. Col. Robert L. Dulaney received the colors for the regiment activated in 1869. Baltimore, Md. Sat.

Benning PX Manager Once 'Top Bugler'

The Afro-American

FORT BENNING, Ga. —First Sgt. Richardson S. Green (retired), new manager of Post Exchange No. 27 here, once held the enviable position of "top bugler" of the United States Army. Baltimore, Md.

Back in 1915, he was selected as the bugler to play "taps" for the official closing of the World's Fair at San Francisco. Sergeant Green was also a member of the late President Theodore Roosevelt's 10th Cavalry Regiment escort. Sat. 10-26-46

Negroes Offered Special Training By Regular Army

A revised list of Negro specialists who will be accepted for enlistment in the Regular Army, has been released by First Lt. Charles E. Butler Commanding Officer of the Sumter Sub-Station of the United States Army Recruiting Service located at second floor, City Hall, Sumter, S. C

Lieut. Butler states that enlistments will be limited to individuals who are qualified for and have served not less than six months in the following Military Occupational Specialties:

MOS	SPECIALTY
039	cable splicer, telephone & telegraph
059	foreman, construction.
067	dental laboratory technician.
070	draftsman.
114	machinist.
149	pharmacist
213	stenographer
229	medical equip. maintenance tech.
264	X-ray technician.
275	classification specialist.
304	electric motor repairman
319	construction equip. mechanic.
337	foreman, automotive repair shop
348	parts clerk.
366	orthopedic mechanic.
409	medical technician.
452	optometrist.
514	radar crewman (designated set)
528	airplane hydraulic mechanic.
555	airplane sheet metal worker.
322	finance technical clerk.
323	finance typist-clerk.
324	finance clerk.
347	radio repairman, aircraft equip.
378	power turret & gunsight mech.
381	power turret & gunsight repair.
383	bombsight mechanic.
685	airplane electrical mechanic.
686	airplane instrument mechanic.
687	airplane propeller mechanic.

740—radio operator, intermediate speed
747—airplane & engine mechanic.
754—radio mechanic, AAF.
858—medical laboratory technician.
859—pharmacy technician.
861—surgical technician.
870—chemical non-commissioned offic.
911—airplane armorer.
941—camera technician.
965—mechanic, automotive, wheel vehicle (3rd Echelon).
979—chemical warfare man, general
1607—heavy mortar crewman.

Due to the fact that these specialists are needed only in certain places, men enlisting in these categories cannot be given their choice of Arm of Service or choice of overseas theater.

ROTC Units Fill Quota In Southeast

With approximately 30,000 cadets enrolled in ROTC units in the seven Southeastern States comprising the Third Army Area, Seventh Army Headquarters has announced that a survey indicates all quotas are filled and in many instances will be increased.

The 1946 enrollment figures far exceed the first estimates and, as the War Department adopted an elastic program, revision of the quotas for high schools and accredited junior and senior colleges will be expanded due to the unprecedented influx of students.

A personnel of more than 700 officers and enlisted men will serve as instructors, administrators and in the supply sections of the units, and the program will be directed by officers holding the rank as high as full colonel with the assistance of enlisted men with ratings of sergeant and above. Both officers and enlisted men are selected on basis of character, experience and other general qualifications and are assigned subject to the approval of the educational executives.

Senior ROTC units have been approved at 18 leading higher educational institutions in Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi. Negro units have been installed at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and North Carolina Agricultural & Technical College, Greensboro. Junior courses are offered in 13 essentially military schools as well as high schools in 21 cities and towns within the area. Six smaller schools in as many states will offer the courses under the National Defense Act.

Famous Negro War Regiment To Hold Spartanburg Reunion

The following letter, addressed to the editor of The State, is considered worthy of attention. The 371st Negro Infantry regiment served gallantly in World War I.

To the Editor of The State:

Mr. Editor, again we will ask for a little space.

Plans are being completed for the reunion of the old 371st Negro regiment of infantry and other World War I units of 1917-18, to be held at the USO building, South Liberty street, Spartanburg, Monday, November 11. This reunion was to have been held Labor day, but was postponed at the request of many of our veterans who are farmers and couldn't attend at that time on account of crop-gathering.

Many of these veterans have never met since 1919, the day of discharge from the army, and many have gone on to join our comrades and officers who were killed in action in 1918.

Our officers were all white men. Among our brave officers who have answered the call of our Commander of the Universe is Maj. Thomas Moffat of Columbia, a good man, a brave soldier and a good leader, loved by the whole regiment for his kindness and respect for his men. We of his command would go through all hell for him.

So we are asking all veterans who have not sent your donations of $3 to help pay for the big dinner, please send it to the chairman of this committee. Each veteran will be allowed to bring his wife, mother or father, or sweetheart, as the case may be.

All Negro veterans of 1917-18, whether members of the 371st regiment or not are asked to attend and write the chairman at once. Veterans coming by train or bus arriving in Spartanburg by 3:30 p. m. will be in plenty of time for the program and dinner.

(Signed) M. J. PORTER,
Chairman.

325 North Dean street,
Spartanburg.

'Love That Army'

The Defender Sat. 7-20-46

ARMY WILL have only 31 Negroes among those 9,800 Regular Army officers. Twenty per cent of them will be chaplains and that's a joke son. Maybe the Negro soldiers will all sing spirituals as they mop the latrines. (John Henry, stop singing "Wade Thu de Water.") There will be three majors, nine captains, 13 first looeys and six second. Twelve are in the Air Force. Chicago, Ill.

Seven units are being activated or reactivated and Gillem Report be damned, are being manned with all Negroes,—777th F.A. at Fort Knox; 450th Anti-Aircraft Artillery, Ft. Bliss; 590th Med. Motorized, Ft. Jackson; 60th Ordnance Ammunition, Ft. Lewis; 65th Ordnance Ammunition, Ft. Bragg; 66th Quartermaster Truck, Ft. Bragg; and 614th Tank Destroyer, Camp Hood. Meanwhile, army integration is still a myth.

315 ALL-NEGRO UNITS SET IN ARMY RESERVE

New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25 (AP)—Formation of 315 units of the Army's organized reserve corps with exclusively Negro personnel was authorized today by Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commander of the ground forces. Many will be combat outfits, but, in accordance with a new post-war policy to limit the size of Negro units, none will be larger than a regiment, or about 3,500 men. Mon 8-26-46

With a complement of officers and enlisted men, all of the units will be equipped and trained to be ready for active service in the event of an emergency.

The authorized units were distributed among the six field armies of the land forces' post-war defense organization, with the largest number assigned to the Eastern and Southern States. The largest single unit listed is an infantry regiment to be assigned to a division of the Second Army, whose area is Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

Other units authorized include: First Army, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware and New York. Other units will be assigned to divisions, or will be separate organizations, such as an armored division type-tank battalion, an Army band, ordnance automotive maintenance companies, transportation truck companies and the like.

Army Medical Corps Reverses Racial Policy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

1600 Doctors to Be Commissioned; Ability Sole Basis for Assignment Under New Plan

Sat. 11-23-46

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The Medical Corps will commission and assign doctors without regard to race in procuring 1600 doctors to be commissioned in the Regular Army, the office of the Surgeon General said last Tuesday.

If true, this represents a complete about face by the Army Medical Corps. During the war while there was a shortage of doctors and nurses in the Medical Corps, ceilings were maintained on colored personnel.

The Surgeon General's office followed the practice of assigning colored doctors chiefly to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., Tuskegee Army Air Field and other installations where colored troops were concentrated. Two or three hospital units also were sent overseas.

There will be no specific assignments for these officers, it was added, and they will be assigned according to their capabilities. A number of doctors received their medical education at Howard and Meharry Medical Schools in the Army Specialized Training program and are eligible for commissions.

Benefits of This Career

Citing the benefits of such a career, General Kirk said "the service offers 30 years of work in the field of medicine and its specialties, and service will include advanced study in leading civilian medical schools, when merited, and Army general hospitals."

An Army doctor begins to specialize in military medicine and surgery as soon as he enters the service. He receives an initial salary as a first lieutenant of $3,804, if he has dependents, and $3,832, if he has no dependents.

189,000 Enlistees in Army on Aug. 1

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

108,000 Regulars, Most Choose Air Corps, QM

WASHINGTON

There were 189,193 colored enlisted personnel in the Army on Aug 1, of whom 108,130 were in the Regular Army, their terms of enlistment ranging from one to three years.

The majority of these Regular Army troops, 81,715, were stationed in the Continental United States while 26,415 were stationed overseas. Sat. 10-26-46

More than a fourth of these enlistees chose the Air Corps as their arm of service. Following are the arms and services to which the Regular Army men are assigned:

Air Corps	28,252
Quartermaster Corps	27,025
Corps of Engineers	12,095
Infantry	9,555
Transportation Corps	8,573
No Branch Assigned	5,418
Ordnance Department	3,687
Field Artillery	2,723
Medical Department	2,688
Detached List	2,349
Signal Corps	1,951
Coast Artillery Corps	952
Corps of Military Police	924
Armored	617
Chemical Warfare Service	557
Cavalry	360
Adjutant General's Dept.	199
Finance Department	5

Brass Hats in Disagreement on How to Justify Army Discrimination

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 2-1-46

Patterson Did Not Approve Letter Published Widely to Explain War Department's Stand

Robert P. Patterson had not signed the letter.

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Admitting that the War Department makes it tough for non-white recruits to enlist in the Regular Army by applying different entrance standards to them than to whites, the Army finds itself in disagreement as to a defense of the biased policy.

Colored recruits are now required to make a score of 39 on the "R-2" test which is given at the recruiting stations, while white applicants for enlistment are required to make a minimum score of 15.

This score of 39 on the "R-2" test, consisting of 50 questions, is equivalent to a score of 103 on the Army General Classification Test.

Letter not Approved

After the Public Relations Division of the War Department had made public a letter defending the "R-2" test which is given at the recruiting stations, while white applicants for enlistment are required to make a minimum score of 15.

Its release for publication was approved by the proper officials of the General Staff, and copies were given to the Associated Press, the New York newspaper PM, and the NNPA News Service. Then the error was discovered.

The draft of the letter seeks to justify the admission into the Army of colored men on a quota basis instead of on their qualifications and aptitude for military training.

Neither had the letter been sent to Jesse D. Dedmon, veterans secretary of the NAACP, who protested barring colored enlistees on discriminatory qualifications in a letter sent the War Department on Oct. 4.

Between the office of the civilian aide to the Secretary of War sent to Mr. Dedmon, and the personnel division of the Secretary of War signature.

Quota System Defended

Somebody made the mistake of proved the draft and signed the letter. Patterson had not

Robert P. Patterson had not signed the letter.

62b 1946

U. S. Army (General)

1-19-46

BRIG. GEN. B. O. DAVIS

General Davis Assumes Duties In Washington

Houston Chron. 1-25-46
The Informer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, after a 45-day leave of absence, following a tour of duty in the European Theatre, has assumed his duties as Assistant to the Inspector General, Lieut. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan, with offices in the Munitions building, the War Department announced today.

Gen. Davis returned to the States in November, 1945, after having been relieved of duty as Special Assistant to the Inspector General of the European Theatre of Operations, Maj. Gen. Everett S. Hughes. He had been stationed at Theatre Services Forces, European Theatre.

Gen. Davis, who was retired as a Regular Army Colonel on July 31 1941, about eight months after his promotion to the temporary rank of brigadier general (October 25 1940), was recalled to active duty the following day. He was assigned to the European Theatre in September, 1942, for a month's temporary duty as advisor on Negro problems. He returned to Washington and was assigned to the Office of the Inspector General.

General Davis returned to the European Theatre on July 1, 1944 and in November of that year became Special Assistant to the Commanding General, Communications Zone, ETO, with headquarters at Paris.

For his service in France the French Government awarded Gen. Davis the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre with palm. In addition he also wears the Distinguished Service Medal awarded to him for his exceptionally meritorious service to the United States Government as Special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops. 1-19-46

Cited

He was cited for "conducting countless investigations concerning individual soldiers, troop units and other components of the War Department" which contributed to bringing about a "fair and equitable solution to many important problems which have since become the basis of far-reaching War Department policy." 1-19-46

Gen. Davis, whose home is 1721 S street, N. W., Washington, D. C. is completing forty-seven years of service in the United States army. He entered the military service on July 13, 1898, during the war with Spain, as a temporary first lieutenant of the Eighth United States Infantry. He was commissioned second lieutenant of Calvary in the Regular Army on February 2, 1901.

37,343 TAN YANKS JOIN REGULAR ARMY

Courier Gettysburg, Pa.

WASHINGTON — Thirty-seven thousand three hundred and forty-three Negro soldiers had enlisted voluntarily in the peacetime Regular Army, Nov. 30, the War Department announced this week. They comprised better than fourteen per cent of the over-all Regular Army post-war enlistments for that date of 261,705.

The total Negro strength of the Army was 589,362 as of Oct. 31, 1945. Commissioned officers, flight and warrant officers made up 6,293 of this figure, with 386,101 officers and enlisted men listed as being assigned to overseas stations.

A partial breakdown of Negro strength in the Army as of Oct. 31, 1945, follows:

Infantry	37,887
Coast and Field Artillery	15,440
Engineers	115,250
Air Force	70,806
Transportation Corps	76,795
All others	273,184
Total	589,362
Officers	6,293
Including:	
Dental Corps Officers	95
Nurses	426
Other Medical Corps Officers	450
Chaplains	201
Serving overseas	386,101
Including:	
Pacific Theatre	200,888
China and India-Burma Theatres	22,231
Alaskan Department	4,131
European Theatre	116,926
Mediterranean Theatre	31,246
Africa-Middle East Theatre	853
Caribbean Defense Command	1,525
Including:	
Women's Army Corps	600

Re-enlistments Over Population Per Cent Washington Worried

The American Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON (ANP). — It was learned from War Department circles that colored re-enlistments were far exceeding the population proportion, and that many are asking for foreign duty, which is causing concern in the department. 2-9-46

While commissioned officers will number approximately 10,000, by proportionate representation there should be 1,000 colored officers. However, applicants for Regular Army commissions are tested by a board of examiners which has no colored members.

15,000 Re-Enlist, Processed At Fort Benning

Atlanta Ga. Daily World. Thur. 4-4-46

BY SGT. W. A. HAGINS

FORT BENNING Ga.,—(SNS)—Hi! Man, what're doing with that "soldier suit" on again? You didn't tell me you were going to re-enlist. How many did you take? Three! Man! Three! That's the typical expression heard at the Fort Benning Reception Center both day and night among servicemen still reporting here from re-enlistment furloughs.

Records reveal that approximately 15,000 men have reported to the Reception Center joining the regular army. Lt. Col Wm. C. Tippins Commanding Officer of the Reception Center, points out. Throughout the area can be seen many soldiers ranging in rank from first sergeants down to privates as well as civilians spotted here and there wearing the "yellow duck" (discharge emblem.) A variety of campaign ribbons and battle stars, representing the past World War theatres are worn by a large number of these soldiers. Many of the former students of the now inactivated Special Training Unit here are among the group too. The training received in the former STU has inspired many of the students to take a second helping of army life. Quite a few of the re enlistees are old timers, having made 20 odd years of service.

HASH MARKS ARMY

At one time, it was amazing to see an army of rank and hash marks. A few of the old timers would sort of group off to themselves—undoubtedly they were comparing the past World War with that of the first World War. Now and then a soldier of smaller rank could be seen counting the hash marks on the sleeves of the old timers coat to make sure his eyesight hasn't failed him. The conversation is interesting now—maybe he was seeking first hand information on the regular Army meal times and at theaters would remind one of the past when induction at the Reception Center was at its peak—every nook and corner crowded to capacity.

During the peak of re-enlistment all departments in the Reception Center were kept busily engaged in processing these men. Some of them worked at night to keep activities going to keep the re-enlistees moving out to other camps. All through the day and night men were and are coming to the Reception Center in taxi cabs and many come by bus. Despite the fact re-enlistment has slowed up a little, some departments still work a few hours at night to avoid an accumulation of work. Thur. 4-4-46

The re-enlistees are honored in the Casual Detachment which is composed of former areas of Company "A" "B" and "C" At one time there were so many soldiers here waiting to be processed, they had to occupy the area with the inductees, commonly called (Jody town.) The men of the regular Army are housed in G. I. barracks and huitments and are provided with day rooms equipped with pool tables, table tennis sets, checker boars, a radio, and a variety of magazines and other reading materials. Major R. P. Langley is Commanding Officer of the Casual Detachment. He is assigned by Major Edgar C. Davis, who is the adjutant, and a staff of officers and enlisted personnel.

PERRY W. HOWARD SAYS NEW ARMY PLAN A FLOP

Miami Fla. Whip Sat 4-6-46

WASHINGTON.—Acceptance by the Negro press of the recent so-called new army policy of a fuller and sounder use of Negro troops and ofifcers was caustically denounced, this week, in a statement by Perry W. Howard, Washington attorney and National Republican Committeeman for Mississippi.

Howard declared:

"I have previously paid my respects to the Negro press as the second emancipator of my race. I have felt that the results of the Negro Press' work during the war are comparable even to the results accomplished by our boys on the battlefields.

"But, alas, I have been humiliated and mortified by their reflop when they accepted the gold brick from the War Department which they said to be a change of policy, when it is nothing more than the same old castor oil put in a different quill.

"The order from the War Department only indicates that hereafter they will take more units of colored and more units of whites and have them work together on the battlefield. But, nowhere do they say that segregation of individual soldiers on acount of race will be broken up. Sat. 4-6-46

"In their newspaper releases relative to the order from the War Department, it was indicated that some representative of the War Department made some observations. But these observations were not included in the order, and they mean no more than the obita dicta of a court opinion, which is no part of the decision of the court."

No Limit Placed on Colored Enlistees

Baltimore Md. AFRO-American

WASHINGTON.

While the Gillem report calls

Assigned to the First Army, the unit has an authorized strength of 24 officers, two warrant officers and 398 enlisted men. It is armed with motorized 150 millimeter howitzers. Wed. 5-29-46

The new Army unit is all colored. 107th Combat Team composed of a regiment of the infantry, a battalion of field artillery and elements of the signal and engineer corps. 5-30-46

Army Establishes New Combat Team

Under Gillem Report

Baltimore Md. 5-30-46

WASHINGTON (ANP)—The War Department disclosed Monday the formation of a new combat team at Fort Benning, Ga., under the terms of the recent Gillem Board report. Officer personnel is mixed, but the enlisted personnel is all colored.

Negroes To Man 9th Field Artillery

Baltimore Md. 5-30-46

WASHINGTON, May 28—(AP)—Reactivation of the Ninth Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Benning, Ga., with Negro personnel was announced by Army Ground

Combat Team In Benning Training

Memphis Herald Tennessee
Fri 3-7-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The report of the Gillem board dealing with the effective utilization of colored manpower in the Army is a notable contribution to the military policy of the United States, Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson told a delegation from the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association at a luncheon conference at the War Department last Friday.

Implementation of the report, which recommends abolition of the requirement of Army policy that colored troops be organized in separate units, has already begun.

TRAIN AT BENNING

In accordance with a recommendation of the Gillem board, a combat team composed of a regiment of infantry and a battalion of field artillery with mixed officer personnel is now in training at Fort Benning Ga. Other combat teams are expected to be placed in training as the report is carried ino effect.

Actual assignment of troops to composite units will be under the direction of Major General Willard S. Paul, assistant chief of staff, personnel Division, G-1, who has brought into the Army General Staff Major Steve Davis, the first colored officer ever to hold a General Staff assignment.

Work on the general policy has already begun, it was learned thru the establishment of a board to carry out the recommendations of the board and to advise on matters concerning full utilization of colored manpower by the Army.

The doing away with segregation as a requirement of Army policy is regarded as the most important recommendation of the Gillem board, which the Secretary of War appointed to review the employment of colored troops in the Army to the best advantage.

General Alin C. Gillem, who distinguished himself in the European theater of operations as a corps commmander, headed the board. Other members were Major General Lewis A. Pick, who built Ledo Road, and Brig. Gen. Winslow C. Morse, Army Air Forces, Brig. Gen. Alan D. Warnock, who was the recorder without vote.

COOPERATION ASKED

Judge Patterson asked the publishers to give the report their earnest attention and the War Department their "thorough cooperation in implementing and carrying forward the policies outlined."

Fri 3-8-46

"What the War Department is anxious to have is the trust and confidence of Negro people," Howard C. Peterson, Asst. Secy. of War, told the publishers. Mr. Peterson, who succeeded John J. McCloy, will be largely responsible for the coordination and supervision of efforts to carry out the recomendations of the report.

He added that the War Department needs te help of the Negro press. "We are cognizant of the fact," he said, "that blind trust is asking a great deal and we felt it was our responsibility to let you know, and thru you the Negro people know, wha our plans are with respect to the Negro in the post-war Army."

NEGROES WILL SERVE ARMY IN 1-10 RATIO

New York Times
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 2—Negroes will serve in the post-war Army on a ratio of one to ten, which is about the ratio of the Negro civilian population to the total population of the nation, the War Department announced today.

The War Department made public principal recommendations of a study by a special board of officers, headed by Lieut. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem, appointed by Secretary Patterson to study utilization of Negro manpower. Sat 5-4-46

The Gillem report has been adopted as War Department policy, and a circular has been sent to all Army commanders, acquainting them with the new regulations.

Negro manpower will be used both in combat and service units, organized into All-Negro regiments or groups, separate battalions or squadrons, and separate companies, troops and batteries. A proportionate number of these units will be organized as part of larger units. White officers assigned to Negro organizations will be replaced by qualified Negro officers.

Officers "will be accepted in the regular Army through the operation of the present integration policy without regard to race," and "the present policy of according all officers, regardless of race, equal opportunities for appointment, advancement, professional improvement, promotion and retention in all components of the Army will be continued."

There will be no segregation in processing enlisted men, both volunteers and selectees, through reception installations. Sat 5-4-46

Existing War Department policies banning restriction of Negro officers from white officers' clubs, messes, etc., will be continued, and commanding officers will be responsible for enforcing the policies

What New Policy of Army Means

Baltimore, Md

This is what the new War Department racial policy does:

1. Broadens the base for use of colored troops to include all branches of service.
2. Details colored troops to smaller units to be integrated into over-all composite Army organizations.
3. Accords to all officers equal rights and advancement according to ability.
4. Proposes, as far as possible, the assignment of colored troops to non-hostile communities. Sat 3-9-46
5. Individuals of proven ability will be assigned without regard to race to special and overhead units.
6. Maintains a place in the peacetime Army for women.

All Branches to Be Opened

Afro American
Baltimore, Md

Change Marks End of 92nd, 93rd Divisions

EQUALITY PLEDGED

Sat 3-9-46

Smaller Units to Work With Mixed Groups

(Report Summary on Page 11)

WASHINGTON

America's peacetime Army for a time will continue to be jim crow, but racial lines will not be drawn with as severe a black and white pattern as they have been in the past, working toward the eventual full utilization of all men.

That was the decision of the War Department last week after adopting in full the report of the special Board of Officers on Utilization of Negro Manpower in the Post-War Army. The report was released Monday.

Calling for the use of colored personnel on a "broader professional scale than has obtained heretofore," the board's postwar policy recommendation, accepted by the War Department, suggests that "groupings of colored units with white units in composite organizations be continued as a policy of the postwar Army."

The integration of platoons of colored soldiers into white combat units was first tried out of dire necessity in the closing phase of the Battle of Germany. The experiment proved highly successful.

Will Mean End of 92nd

The new policy, which the War Department has announced will go into effect immediately, will gradually mean the end of such units as the 92nd and 93rd Divisions.

Instead, large masses of men who in the past were designated for these huge units, would be split up into smaller units and assigned to composite racially mixed organizations. In no case will a unit of colored soldiers be larger than an infantry regiment, it was explained.

The new Army policy calls for the use of colored officers to the fullest extent in these smaller units, and when none are available a more careful examination of the attitudes of white officers who are to command these men.

"All officers, regardless of race," are to be "accorded equal rights and opportunities for advancement and professional improvement" under the new policy.

To Comb Reserves

To meet the demand for additional colored officers, it was suggested that the ranks of reserve officers, including ROTC graduates, be combed for men eligible for active duty. In addition candidates will continue to be drawn from the ranks and graduates from West Point be used to their fullest capabilities.

In addition to using colored personnel in these smaller units within the larger over-all Army organizations, the report urged that "qualified individuals be utilized in appropriate special and overhead units."

"There are places in the framework of the overhead units," the new policy statement reads, "at Army installations where colored personnel with special skills can be utilized to advantage as individuals. Periodic surveys of the installations are necessary to determine such positions."

Provision for the use of recruits to the Women's Army Corps is also made under the "creation of a broader colored base in the post-war Army." Sat 3-9-46

No More Dixie

A radical change from the World War II practice of stationing most colored soldiers in hostile Southern communities, is abandoned under the new plan.

"Colored units of the postwar Army," the report held, "will be stationed in localities where community attitudes are most favorable and in such strength as will not constitute an undue burden to the local civilian population."

The present War Department policy, calling for lack of segregation in the use of recreational facilities and membership in officers' clubs, messes or similar social organizations is to be continued in effect.

This policy, put into effect in January, 45, has been largely ignored by post commanders in the Southern States. It is one of t issues which stirred much resentment on the part of colored personnel.

Commanders to Be Briefed

Apparently cognizant of the fact that many prejudiced post commanders simply refuse to accept any policy change which conflicts with their pre-conceived notions about the treatment of colored men, the report says:

"Commanders of organizations, installations and stations containing colored personnel are to be made fully cognizant of their responsibilities in the execution of the overall War Department policy."

As a step toward seeing that the new policy is fully implemented, a staff of selected officers, whose background has included command of troops, will be formed within the G-I (personnel) Division of the staffs of the War Department.

"Each major command of the Army is to assist in the planning promulgation, implementation and revision of policies affecting all racial minorities," the report said.

Surveys Planned

Surveys of manpower requirements are to be conducted by the War Department seeking recommendations covering the positions in each installation of the Army which could be filled by colored military personnel.

The policy further seeks to channel more colored troops into combat units, and correspondingly fewer in service organizations.

Concluding, the statement says:

"The policies prepared by the War Department should be progressively flexible. They should envision the continued mental and physical improvement of all citizens.

"They should be implemented promptly. They must be objective in nature. They must eliminate, at the earliest practicable moment, any special consideration based on race.

"They should point towards the immediate objective of an evaluation of the colored soldier on the basis of individual merit and ability. They should point towards a long-range objective which visualizes, over a period of time, a still greater utilization of this manpower potential in the military machine of the nation."

The report was signed by Lt. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem Jr., who served as chairman of the special board, commonly known as the Gillem board; Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, Brig. Gen. Winslow C. Morse and Brig. Gen. Aln D. Warnock, who served as secretary of the board.

Opening For Negro Enlstments In Army Enumerated

The U. S. Army Recruiter S-Sgt. James W. Coovert, Second Floor, Court House, Cullman, announced today that he had openings for enlistment of negroes in the following job specifications:

The MOS and description follows: 243, Goedetic Computer; 070 laboratory technician; 858, medical therapist; 409, medical wheel vehicle draftsman; 107, phololithographer; technician (advance); 149, pharmacy technician; 919, heavy AA remote control 004, aerial photgrapher; 076 topomacy technician; 859 pharmacy system repairman; 622, advance efinance; 624, advance finance; 623, tor; 250, vetinary inspector; 264, 042, camera repairman; 095, central office repairman; 097, instrutechnician; 229, medical e-tral maintenance technician; ment repairman, tp and tg; 166, fixed station; 766, radio operator powerman; 648, radio repairman; 114, machinist; 965, 187, repeaterman; 239, teletype vehicle automotive mechan-mechanic; 649, radio repairman , 348, ordnance high speed manual; 805, cryptorepairman; 855 dental la- 629, medical department physical graphic technician; 861, surgical technidenta ltechnician; 858, medical therapist; 409, medical wheel laboratory technician; 149, pharmacy technician; 859 pharmacy system repairman; 622, advance finance; 624, advance finance; 623, tor; 250, vetinary inspector; 264, 042, camera repairman; 095, central office repairman; 097, instrutechnician; 229, medical e-tral maintenance technician; ment repairman, tp and tg; 166, fixed station; 766, radio operator powerman; 648, radio repairman; 114, machinist; 965, 187, repeaterman; 239, teletype vehicle automotive mechan-mechanic; 649, radio repairman , heavy AA remote control; 805, cryptorepairman; 348, ordnance high speed manual; 805, cryptographic draftsman. 230, topograph- technician; 861, surgical technic- parts clerk; 848, ordnance parts clerk; 848, ordnance parts; 792, radio repairman single channel; 646, tg; 039, cable splicer, tp and tg; 039, cable splicer, tp and tg; 646, tg; 304 electric motor re- cian; 120, meat and dairy inspec- clerk

62b 1946 U. S. Army (Gillem Report)

GILLEM REPORT AIMS TO END SEGREGATION IN U. S. ARMY

Pittsburgh Courier

Ultimate Objective Is the Employment of Manpower in the Army on the Basis Of Ability Alone . . . Represents a Change of Direction in Army Policy

Pa.

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Former Civilian Aide to Secretary of War and Now The Pittsburgh's Courier Veterans' Editor

Pa. 3-23-46 Saturday

(First in a Series)

The recent announcement of the long awaited Gillem Report touched off a wide discussion as to just what effect the recommendations would have on the Army. Many of the conjectures resulted from the ambiguous and vague character of several of the recomendations and some of the language used in the body of the report.

Some of the newspaper comment reveals that a few of the sections were susceptible to more than one interpretation. For example, the Chicago Sun interpreted the section continuing present War Department policies in officers' clubs and recreation facilities as constituting an acceptance for the future of the fictional separate but equal plan in the use of these facilities. The direct opposite of this was intended by the Gillem board. Present policies as distinguished, of course, from improper practices that were all too frequent, prohibit the exclusion of any soldiers from any facilities on Army reservations on account of their race.

IDENTITY OF TREATMENT

Likewise the section recommending that "all officers, regardless of race, be accorded equal rights" has been interpreted in many quarters as being consistent with segregation. Here again the Gillem board intended the reference to equality to mean identity of treatment.

Despite these varying, and, in many respects, erroneous interpretations, the intention of the Gillem board was to eliminate the requirement that Negroes be segregated into separate organizations. The ultimate objective that the board members set up was the complete elimination of segregation with a concommitant complete integration of all men in the Army on a basis of ability.

On this, the Secretary of War said last week: "The report embodies an effort to profit by our experience in the war. It represents a change in direction in Army policy." (The ultimate objective is the employment of manpower in the Army on the basis of ability alone.)

3-23-46

LONG WAY FROM 1940

Now this new direction in which the Army is moving is a long way from the point of origin in 1940. In fact, the importance of the Gillem Report lies in the several important changes in basic approaches which are estabilshed in it. These changes canot be properly understood without a knowledge as to where the Army was before 1940.

Prior to 1940 there had been several studies into the performance of Negro troops. These served the basis for statements and policies governing the employment of Negroes in the Army. I had occasion, while in the War Department, to examine carefully all of these studies and the resulting mobilization plans. In all of them were three basic promises: (1) That Negroes should be segregated into separate units, (a) because of statutes enacted in the late 1860s authorizing the formation of four Negro regiments, two of infantry and two of calvary and, (b) because 'this policy (of segregation) has proven satisfactory over a long period of years"; (2) Negro soldiers are not adaptable to modern combat conditions because of certain racial characteristics and, (3) Negro officers have failed in the past because of the lack of character and the inherent distrust of Negroes for Negro leadership.

PERFORMED REAL SERVICE

On the basis of these premises, al of the plans proceeded on the general conclusion that the Army should use Negro troops only in segregated units and that as few Negro organizations as possible should be established and these should be non-combatant. That these premises were untrue and the general conclusion unsound is, of course, obvious. However, the truth or falsity of these constantly repeated statements were immaterial to the fact that they were quite generally believed to be true in the Army.

The Gillem board, in chucking these notions out of the window, performed a real service. They officially closed the door on such unscientific speculations. The real measure of the work lies, therefore, in what they have changed. Commencing next week, I shall discuss in detail the nature and meaning of these changes.

Truman Gibson Jr. Declares:

Gillem Report Critics Confused

Pittsburg Courier, Pittsburg, Pa.
Sat 4-6-46

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Veterans Editor

Last week, I examined those parts of the Gillem Report that recommended an increase in the number of Negro officers in the Regular Army. Those provisions of the Gillem Report, I said, could be understood thorougly only by examining past policies and actions of the Army which definitely sought to restrict the number of Negro officers in the regular service. The fact that there were only five Negro officers in the Regular Army when the expansion began in 1940, is convincing evidence that these acts were effective. This week, I shall examine into the manner in which the Gillem Board recommends that this increased number of Negro officers in the Regular Army be used.

CRITICISM OFFERED

Considerable criticism of the rec-

62b 1946

U. S. Army (Gillem Report)

GILLEM REPORT AIMS TO END SEGREGATION IN U. S. ARMY

Pittsburgh Courier

Ultimate Objective Is the Employment of Manpower in the Army on the Basis Of Ability Alone . . . Represents a Change of Direction in Army Policy

Pa.

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Former Civilian Aide to Secretary of War and Now The Pittsburgh's Courier Veterans' Editor

Pa. 6 3-23-46

(First in a Series)

Saturday

The recent announcement of the long awaited Gillem Report touched off a wide discussion as to just what effect the recommendations would have on the Army. Many of the conjectures resulted from the ambiguous and vague character of several of the recomendations and some of the language used in the body of the report.

Some of the newspaper comment reveals that a few of the sections were susceptible to more than one interpretation. For example, the Chicago Sun interpreted the section continuing present War Department policies in officers' clubs and recreation facilities as constituting an acceptance for the future of the fictional separate but equal plan in the use of these facilities. The direct opposite of this was intended by the Gillem board. Present policies as distinguished, of course, from improper practices that were all too frequent, prohibit the exclusion of any soldiers from any facilities on Army reservations on account of their race.

IDENTITY OF TREATMENT

Likewise the section recommending that "all officers, regardless of race, be accorded equal rights" has been interpreted in many quarters as being consistent with segregation. Here again the Gillem board intended the reference to equality to mean identity of treatment.

Despite these varying, and, in many respects, erroneous interpretations, the intention of the Gillem board was to eliminate the requirement that Negroes be segregated into separate organizations. The ultimate objective that the board members set up was the complete elimination of segregation with a concommitant complete integration of all men in the Army on a basis of ability.

On this, the Secretary of War said last week: "The report embodies an effort to profit by our experience in the war. It represents a change in direction in Army policy." (The ultimate objective is the employment of manpower in the Army on the basis of ability alone.) 3-23-46

LONG WAY FROM 1940

Now this new direction in which the Army is moving is a long way from the point of origin in 1940. In fact, the importance of the Gillem Report lies in the several important changes in basic approaches which are estabilshed in it. These changes canot be properly understood without a knowledge as to where the Army was before 1940.

Prior to 1940 there had been several studies into the performance of Negro troops. These served the basis for statements and policies governing the employment of Negroes in the Army. I had occasion, while in the War Department, to examine carefully all of these studies and the resulting mobilization plans. In all of them were three basic promises: (1) That Negroes should be segregated into separate units, (a) because of statutes enacted in the late 1860s authorizing the formation of four Negro regiments, two of infantry and two of calvary and, (b) because 'this policy (of segregation) has proven satisfactory over a long period of years"; (2) Negro soldiers are not adaptable to modern combat conditions because of certain racial characteristics and, (3) Negro officers have failed in the past because of the lack of character and the inherent distrust of Negroes for Negro leadership.

PERFORMED REAL SERVICE

On the basis of these premises, al of the plans proceeded on the general conclusion that the Army should use Negro troops only in segregated units and that as few Negro organizations as possible should be established and these should be non-combatant. That these premises were untrue and the general conclusion unsound is, of course, obvious. However, the truth or falsity of these constantly repeated statements were immaterial to the fact that they were quite generally believed to be true in the Army.

The Gillem board, in chucking these notions out of the window, performed a real service. They officially closed the door on such unscientific speculations. The real measure of the work lies, therefore, in what they have changed. Commencing next week, I shall discuss in detail the nature and meaning of these changes.

Truman Gibson Jr. Declares:

Gillem Report Critics Confused

Pittsburg Courier, Pittsburg, Pa.

Sat 4-6-46

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Veterans Editor

Last week, I examined those parts of the Gillem Report that recommended an increase in the number of Negro officers in the Regular Army. Those provisions of the Gillem Report, I said, could be understood thoroughly only by examining past policies and actions of the Army which definitely sought to restrict the number of Negro officers in the regular service. The fact that there were only five Negro officers in the Regular Army when the expansion began in 1940, is convincing evidence that these acts were effective. This week, I shall examine into the manner in which the Gillem Board recommends that this increased number of Negro officers in the Regular Army be used.

CRITICISM OFFERED

Considerable criticism of the recommendations of the Gillem Board with respect to oficers is being currently expressed. For example, one Negro newspaper of large circulation in an editorial says, "We have studied and restudied the over-lengthy weasel-worded report." The writer of the editorial goes on to say, "Instead of winning their spurs as officers be-cause of ability, they will be dependent for their promotion (sic) on the availability of Negro units for them to command. Negro officers will not be allowed to be in-

...lations prevail. Promotions are made to fill position vacancies. All of these promotions are temporary in nature. This means that a first lieutenant in an organization where there is a vacancy in the grade of captain can be promoted to that position notwithstanding the fact that there are other first lieutenants in other organizations who are senior to him.

This difference in promotion in peace time and war time is the single most compelling reason for the past limitations on the number of Negro officers in the Regular Army. During war time, different regu-

...le. All he has to do ...reasonably sober, keep ...much trouble and main-...f in fair physical condi-...through the grade of ...colonel no man may ...an officer who is ahead ...the promotion list. The ...tion to this rule is in ...ion of generals. They ...moted from the list of ...colonels and colonels on ...r Army list.

PROMOTIONS TEMPORARY

...higher ranks than any white man." ...is inexorable. Undoubtedly was the situa-...to stay reason-...Army prior to the Gil-...out of too much ...lem Report. But these situations ...tain himself in f... tion. Up through ...dressed lieutenant colonel ...jump over an of... him on the p... con- ...He ...dead wrong. ...torial was ...the situation that existed ...only exception ...Regular promotion ...time in the ...that exists ...one ...lieutenant colonel ...promotions in the ...Regular Army ...are made from a ...list. Every officer ...off-single promotion ...number and his rise ...assigned a

62b 1946

Army Board Approves Plan For All-Negro Soldier Units

Montgomery Advertiser

Mon 3-4-46

WASHINGTON, March 3.—(AP)—The War Department announced an intention today to make a fuller use of Negro manpower both in the peacetime regular Army and in the event of a future war.

An approved new Army policy recommended by a board of four generals provides however for organization of Negro troops into units no larger than an infantry regiment—some 2,700 men—or a comparable organization.

The decision for small units was based on "experiments and other experiences of World War II" in which the board reported that "the most successful employment of Negro units occurred when they were employed as units closely associated with white units on similar tasks."

Of three Negro wartime divisions of about 15,000 men each, the 92nd and 93rd Infantry Divisions have been reactivated after overseas service. The 2nd Cavalry Division was broken up into small units early in the North African campaign.

Specifically the new policy provides for creation of all types of Negro units, both combat and service, on the 1-to-10 proportion of Negro to white civilians. In addition qualified individuals will be used "in appropriate special and overhead units."

An unspecified number of selected Negro officers with war experience are to be accepted in the regular Army on the same standards as other officers. Negro officers eventually should command all-Negro units, it was stated.

The principle was approved that Negro units of the postwar Army should be stationed "in localities where community attitudes are most favorable and in such strength as will not constitute an undue burden to the local civilian population."

"Creation of a broader Negro base in the postwar Army logically includes organization of appropriate elements of any female component," the board reported.

The board, headed by Lieut. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem, concluded that the War Department failed to prepare adequate plans for use of Negro manpower prior to World War II, and advised that if "remedial action" were taken now, "many of the apparent deficiencies of the Negro soldier can be eliminated."

Approximately 909,000 saw wartime military service, and the Gillem Board stated that their participation "was in many instances creditable, and definitely contributed to the success attained by our military forces."

Although there were some "substandard performances in combat" by Negro units, the board contended that "the results obtained by all units are in direct proportion to the leadership demonstrated."

Mon 3-4-46

The board advised that the regular Army should deny reenlistment to white as well as Negro "professional privates" and seek to recruit in their places men capable of becoming officers or non-coms.

Army To Rely More Upon Negro Troops

Birmingham News-Ledger

WASHINGTON, March 4—(AP)—The Army proposes henceforth to rely more than in the past on Negro troops but to use them in relatively small units.

Under a revised policy announced yesterday by the War Department the strength of Negro units will not exceed that of a regiment, or approximately 2,700 men.

Three Negro divisions of some 15,000 men each saw overseas service in World War II—the 92nd and 93rd Infantry and the Second Cavalry—but all have been demobilized.

Wed 3-4-46

The explanation given for the new policy was "experiments and other experiences" in the war, in which a board of four generals headed by Lt. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem advised that there were "reported failures in combat."

The report concluded, however, that "the participation of the Negro in World War II was in many instances creditable" and stressed provisions to take full advantage of Negro manpower both in the postwar peacetime Army and in any expansion of forces to meet a national emergency.

These include acceptance by the regular Army of an unspecified number of Negro officers with war experience, eventual command of all Negro units by officers of this race, and "organization of appropriate elements of any female component."

Gillem Report Means More Mixed Units

Chicago Defender

All-Negro Outfits To Remain Under New Program

3-4-46

(Text of Gillem Report on Page 7)

(Defender Washington Bureau)

U. S. Army (Gillem Report)

WASHINGTON—The War Department this week dropped its World War II policy of segregation of soldiers in the U. S. Army by race.

In a highly significant move the report of a special board of high-ranking Army generals on the utilization of Negro manpower was officially released and put into effect a new program for Negro soldiers in the postwar army.

Although not ending Jim Crow in the army, as predicted by Truman K. Gibson Jr., former civilian aide to the Secretary of War, the new policy will put more emphasis on Negro and white troops fighting together, though in different units. The pattern will very much follow the practice employed on the Western front when Negro platoons were added to decimated white regiments and allowed in combat for the first time.

Long Study

Sat.

The report issued by a committee headed by Lt. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem Jr., was approved by Secretary of War Robert Patterson and ordered put into effect by Chief of Staff General Dwight C. Eisenhower. The board's recommendations follow the lines of stories in the Defender since Dec. 1 indicating issuance of the report

The board's recommendations were first revealed Friday at a luncheon meeting where executive members of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association were guests of the War Department at the invitation of Howard C. Peterson, Assistant Secretary of War

Secretary of War Patterson told that gathering, "I regard the report of the Gillem Board as a significant step in the development of Army personnel policies. I have accordingly, on the recommendation of the Chief of Staff General Eisenhower, directed that its recommendations be put into effect."

The recommendations of the board came after months of serious study and analysis of official materials made available by the War Department, and the oral testimony of over 60 military and civilian witnesses.

Implementation of the program will be under the supervision of the Assistant Secretary of War, Peterson, and will be a direct responsibility of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, Gen. Willard S. Paul. Recently Maj. Steve Davis, a Negro, of Chicago was assigned to assist in implementing the Gillmen Board recommendations.

Peterson said the board has recommended a broader utilization of Negro manpower in the postwar Army, with "increased emphasis on assignment of officers and men on the basis of ability and the use, as a matter of policy, of composite and mixed units. Segregation of Negroes into separate units will not be required as a matter of policy although it is anticipated that for some time most Negroes will be used in Negro units, often constituting part of larger white or composite units. There should be far more frequent assignment of individual Negroes with special skills to overhead and special units without regard to race.

"I agree with the objectives stated in the report of the board, and I believe that it constitutes a sound basis for future planning."

"What the War Department is anxious to have is the trust and confidence of Negro people," Peterson told the publishers.

Asks Negro Aid

3-9-46

He added that the War Department needs the help of the Negro press. "We are cognizant of the fact," he said, "that blind trust is asking a great deal, and we felt it was our responsibility to let you know, and through you the Negro people know, what our plans are with respect to the Negro in the postwar Army.

"I strongly believe, as I think the board believed," said Mr. Peterson, "that a strongly stated policy weakly carried out or carried out without force and vigor will be of no value to the Army or the Negro people."

He added that "We intend to the best of our ability to put these policies into effect. That is going to take time, but I think we have completely open minds on the whole proposition."

Dropping the requirement of segregation, he said, "does not mean that we are going to abolish Negro units. For some time most Negroes in the Army will be utilized in Negro units, but I think the emphasis will be put on using Negroes on the same standards and on the same qualification basis as white troops, both enlisted men and officers."

Not Final Answer

Sat.

Speaking for the publishers, Frank Stanley, president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association and editor of the Louisville Defender, called the Gillem board's report "a significant step forward, proceeding on the premise that the War Department and Negroes alike share the common desire that our democratic army be efficient and for all citizens and, moreover, specifying that all people shall share equally the burdens and responsibilities of keep the peace."

He said that as he understands it, "The report does not set itself up as a final answer, but it does change the direction in which the Army will move, and I am sure that all Negroes everywhere, and particularly the Negro press, will cooperate with any program designed to give fair and effective utilization of all citizens, including those, who by accident of birth or otherwise happen to be colored."

Implementation of the report has already begun.

3-9-46

In accordance with a recommendation of the board, a combat team composed of a regiment of infantry and a battalion of field artillery with mixed officer personnel is now in training at Fort Benning, Ga. Other combat teams are expected to be placed in training as the report is carried into effect.

The board heard testimony of white and Negro officers, many of them flown from overseas directly for this purpose. Among the witnesses was a young Negro sergeant who had fought successfully with one of the integrated platoons on the Western Front. The board also heard testimony from a large number of civilian leaders, white and Negro, including NNPA President Frank Stanley, editor and publisher of the Louisville Defender; Walter White, secretary of the NAACP; Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard University Law School and former civilian aide to the Secretary of War; Charles Houston, outstanding Washington attorney; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute; Dr. Will Alexander, Julius Rosenwald Fund; and A. A. Liveright, executive director, American Council on Race Relations.

Army's New Integration Plan Heralded in Gillem Report

Pittsburgh Courier

Sat. 3-9-46

Segregation an Old Army Custom

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Veterans Editor

The Gillem Report, which is the basis for the recently announced new policy of the Army, provides for the use of Negro enlisted men in the following three ways (1) in mixed units which will be continued as a matter of policy, (2) in segregated units not over the size of a regiment and (3) complete integration of specialists. This, of course, is a radical departure from the old policy of segregation. regardless of their skills and abilities.

In this break with the old policy that lumped all Negroes into segregated organizations, it little to know er hand, Negroes and a lot of our friends have been equally vocifer- the war just ous in saying yes. Then, in the at all new. It period that has followed, there has a pattern that ensued a struggle by Negroes for ment. They were turned down. It the years. the privilege of fighting to defend was not until July 16, 1862, after in which our the failure of McClellan's cam- their country paign against Richmond, and when volunteers were diminishing to the vanishing point that Congress authorized the enlisting of Negroes in the military. They wanted to get into the fight. Early in the war, the military leaders have thundered a resounding no! to the query. On the other hand, Negroes and a lot of our friends have been equally vociferous in saying yes. Then, in the period that has followed, there has been a struggle by Negroes for the privilege of fighting to defend their country

Sat. 3-20-46

OLD PATTERN AN IN CIVIL WAR

At the outbreak of the Civil War, the policy of segregation was not at all new. It was a pattern that had been established in the military service of the country. Before every war in which our country has been involved, one of the major questions asked at the outset is, "Do Negroes make good soldiers?" During the war the question has been answered in a uniform manner. At the outset, it should be recognized that the old

intrenchments, or performing camp service, or any war service for which they might be found competent." It was not until January of 1863, after the formal announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, that the Governor of Massachusetts was authorized to raise two volunteer Negro regiments for three-year service. Thereafter Negroes were admitted into the Union army up to the number of about 390,000. A large organization, the XXV Army Corps, the largest all-Negro organization in the history of the Army, was set up.

Just as in the Revolutionary War, it took a lot of pressure, combined with the threat of defeat, to make the Army employ Negroes. It is obvious that the lessons of the Revolutionary War had been completely forgotten.

THEN CAME WORLD WAR I

At the beginning of World War I, Negroes had to start the same fight all over again that they started in the Civil War and Revolutionary War for admittance into the Armed Forces on the same basis as their fellow Americans. They argued for and won, a segregated training camp for Negro officers. Ultimately 1,353 Negro officers were commissioned. Nearly all of them were trained at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. In World War I, 10.7 per cent were Negroes with more than 13,000,000 Negroes serving actually. Sat. 4-20-46

ANOTHER FIGHT FOR RIGHTS

History repeated itself in World War II. Our fight for the right to fight had to begin all over again. There, therefore, is nothing unique or new about our experiences. Quite apparently there has been something basically wrong in the approach of the Army and Negroes to the problem.

One of the most obvious factors that immediately presented itself is the emotional impasse that most Negroes and the Army reach instantly in talking about Negro soldiers. The Army has generally, over the years, put an unfavorable stamp on Negroes—alleging some inherent racial characteristic that made us different from everybody else. The familiar counter-argument to this has been that Negroes are better than anybody else and they actually have done well and that the Army is a dirty liar. The truth of the matter is that fighting ability cannot be measured in terms of race. Both groups are therefore missing the boat. Soldiers are made. They are the results of their training, leadership and motivation and not race. Well trained, well led and well motivated troops fight well. Poorly trained, poorly led and poorly motivated troops don't.

With this background we can now go on to a consideration of just how much the Gillem Report will mean in the light of the history and what chance we have of reversing all of the past trends and actually profiting from the lessons in this war and all the other past wars.

Next week I shall examine the performance of Negro troops and develop, for the first time, some hitherto unrevealed facts in this connection.

More on the Gillem Report

General Davis Fought Behind The Scenes for Negro Soldiers

Gillebery Pa. Courier

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Veterans Editor

Last week, I showed how the lessons of history had been consistently forgotten in the development of our military policy insofar as it affects Negroes. In this, both the Army and Negroes share the blame for overlooking the fact that soldiers are not born, but made. The fact of WHAT Negro troops have or have not done has been accepted as conclusive, with the Army contending on the one hand that the failures of Negro troops showed that they were no good and many misinformed Negroes contending on the other hand that Negro soldiers never fail. Completely overlooked are the reasons behind the reports of performance.

To recapitulate, in our own history examples of the difference between well-trained and well-led troops and poorly trained troops, no matter how loyal and valiant, is amply illustrated. General Washington, in the Revolution, had trying difficulties with untrained troops. At Long Island, Brandywine and Camden poorly trained troops were forced to break and flee. In the War of 1812, the record of land fighting, until New Orleans, is one of disappointments resulting from the use of raw troops.

UNION FORCE ROUTED

Even at New Orleans, the untrained volunteers on the west bank of the Mississippi gave way before the enemy. At Bull Run, in 1861, the entire Union force was routed, largely because General McDowell was forced to attack with raw recruits whose entire period of enlistment was for but three months. Only after bitter experience and long training in the field were we able to achieve victory in these early wars. And the troops involved were white.

When Negro troops, like others, have been well led, trained, and motivated, they have fought well. When poorly trained and led, Negro troops, like all troops, have performed poorly. The members of the Gillem Board had presented to them in lurid detail many instances of alleged failures of Negro troops. This testimony ran to hundreds of pages and was presented by some of the highest ranking officers in the Army. Its purpose was to justify the stereotyped conclusion that because Negroes had failed as soldiers in these specific instances, they should not be used in the future.

THIS PREMISE REJECTED

The Gillem Board rejected this premise. The members threw all of these notions out of the window. In recommending an end to segregation and immediately implementing this position with specific proposals, the members of the board properly held the jim-crow system responsible for the improper utilization of Negro troops. They said in effect that the Army was to blame; that segregation was unsound from a military point of view. Sat 5-4-46

This jim-crow system has been justified in the past by two principal contentions. One is pseudo-legal. This is that Congress, in passing legislation in 1868, imposed the system of segregation on the Army for all time to come. The other is that segregation has always existed and has worked. The legal argument can be quickly disposed of. Congress in 1868 consolidated all of the then existing Negro units in the Army into four organizations. "Two of Infantry and two Cavalry."

The language used has been interpreted by some in the Army who have let their desires interfere with their judgment as being mandatory on the Army. They say that until Congress acts again, the Army is bound by the statute both as to size and of Negro organizations. This is of course a ridiculous position for any officer in the Army to take.

MINIMUM STANDARD

The clear intent of the Congress in 1868 was to enact legislation permitting the recruitment of Negroes. Further, the intent was to set a minimum standard below which the Army should not fall.

There is no better way to start a consideration of jim-crow in the Army than by using the experience of the oldest and most distinguished Negro soldier, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis. In doing this, I am in a sense violating a friendship that has existed between the General and myself for several years. He has never played to the galleries. Under abuse he has kept his silence outside the Army but inside the Army General Davis' experiences and attitudes are well set out in a memorandum he wrote on November 10, 1943 and which he personally presented in a vigorous manner in a meeting at which I was present:

During the last two months I have, with Mr. Gibson, the civilian aide to the Secretary of War, visited the colored troops at the following stations: Fort Devens, Mass.; the New York Port of Embarkation (New York City, Brooklyn, Camp Shanks and Mitchel Field, New York; Camp Kilmer and Fort Dix, New Jersey); Selfridge Field and Oscoda, Michigan. During 1941, 1942, and the early part of this year, my visits were made to the stations, located in the Southern States, Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas.

I have reviewed inspection reports and investigations made by other inspectors general from the Office of the Inspector General and the field. I was deeply impressed with the high morale and attitudes of the colored officers and soldiers stationed in the States visited in the past two months. They were so different from those of the colored officers and soldiers at the stations located in the Southern States. While there has been an improvement in general conditions, there is still great dissatisfaction and discouragement on the part of the colored people and the soldiers. They feel that, regardless of how much they strive to meet War Department requirements, there is no change in the attitude of the War Department. The colored officers and soldiers feel that they are denied the protection and rewards that ordinarily result from good behavior and proper performance of duty. Sat 5-4-46

Colored combat units, upon completion of training, have not been sent to theaters of operations. The enlisted personnel of two battalions of Field Artillery has been recently transferred to service units. The War Department has stated that this was directed by military necessity. Somebody in the Department permitted this situation to develop. The personnel transferred from these Field Artillery units is reduced in morale. The commissioned and enlisted personnel left with the Field Artillery battalions can only look forward to another period of from fourteen to sixteen months of preparation. They can hardly hold out to the new men much hope for an opportunity for combat.

The Ninety-third Division has about completed all the prescribed training. The disposition of this Division in the near future will have a great effect on the morale of the colored people. In the activation of new colored units, few commanding officers, if any, have been selected from the colored field officers. Some of these colored field officers have successfully completed the courses at the service schools and have been serving in their present grades for long periods.

The press news items and reports of investigations show that there has been little change in the attitudes of civilian committees in Southern States. The colored man in uniform receives nothing but hostility from community officials. The colored man in uniform is expected by the War Department to develop a high morale in a community that offers him nothing but humiliation and mistreatment. Military training does not develop a spirit of cheerful acceptance of jim-crow laws and customs. The War Department has failed to secure to the colored soldier protection against violence on the part of civilian policy and to secure justice in the courts in communities nearby to Southern stations. In the areas recently inspected, the colored soldier feels that he can secure justice in the civil courts. He has not been set upon by the civilian police. He has not been denied the privilege of occupying empty seats in public buses, street cars, etc. Taxicabs do serve him. This is not so in Southern communities.

On the training fields the development of morale does not take into consideration jim-crow laws and customs. The Four Freedoms cannot be enjoyed under jim-crow influences. Officers of the War Department General Staff have refused to attempt any remedial action to eliminate jim crow. In fact, the Army, by its directives and by actions of commanding officers, has introduced jim-crow practices in areas, both at home and abroad, where they have not heretofore been practiced.

In over a year of existence, what has the Advisory Committee for Special Troop Policies (Negro troops) accomplished toward improving conditions surrounding the colored soldiers. The War Department appears to regard the colored soldiers as separate and distinct and, as such, sets them apart. Fraternization or any kind of comradely association with white troops is discouraged. The War Department is making no appreciable efforts to lessen the jim-crow practices, which are by far the greatest factor in the morale of the colored soldier. Many colored units are kept in localites from which many of the families of the men composing these units left in order to escape jim-crow practices. If the department cannot change the attitudes of these communities, it can refrain from locating colored units in the communities hostile to them. Both colored and white soldiers are given the same intensive training, inculcated with the same desire to serve their country with honor — the privilege of every free citizen of any nation. It is the duty of the Department to demonstrate to the world the principle of tolerance toward our own colored group. Sat 5-4-46

This statement of position was a smashing blow to the jim-crow apologists within the Army. For the Army is the only life General Davis has known. None could refute his statement of the devastating effort of Army policies. The position experssed in the above memorandum has been repeated in the War Department by many who believe that by continuing segregation with its accompanying discrimination, the Army was depriving itself of a military asset but even more was stacking the cards against Negro soldiers.

THE GILLEM REPORT

Chicago Defender.

Once again the mountain that is the United States War Department has labored and brought forth a mouse.

The long-awaited, wildly-publicized Gillem report is anything but what its Negro sponsors have promised for it.

The Chicago Defender, perhaps overhopeful that the stupidity of Jim Crow in World War II would teach the army a lesson, now has to admit that we were fooled.

The Gillem report which some brass hats and their Negro lackeys built up in advance as the end of Jim Crow is nothing of the sort.

The Defender has withheld comment on the new plan because we insisted on making a careful study of its contents before making any editorial comment. We have studied and re-studied the over-lengthy, weasel-worded report and find nowhere any signs that the War Department is ending or will end racial segregation in the armed forces.

It is understandable that the War Department in releasing the Gillem report tried to make news out of it by giving it first to a meeting of the National Negro Publishers' Association in Washington. Certainly, it would not be news otherwise.

The Gillem report in many words reiterates the army's stand for racial segregation but tries to dilute the Jim Crow formula by presenting it on a smaller scale. Instead of Jim Crow divisions in the army, the Negro now will be put in Jim Crow platoons. Instead of Negroes winning their spurs as officers because of ability they still will be dependent for their promotion on the availability of Negro units for them to command. Negro officers will not be allowed to be in higher rank than any white man.

Perhaps the Gillem report is an advance in that it admits officially for the first time that Jim Crow weakens the military strength of the nation. The Gillem report also cites the tremendous advances made by the Negro. It gives all the reasons for the ending of Jim Crow in the army but refuses to take the actual step of introducing the institution of democracy into the army which ostensibly has been fighting for democracy all over the world for the past four years.

Good intentions do not win battles. Certainly the army should be the first to recognize this.

Good intentions will not kill Jim Crow. It takes forthright courage, intelligence and initiative.

The War Department has demonstrated in the Gillem report that it has neither. It has once again bowed down to the Dixie pattern of life catering to the Bilbos and Rankins who in their own way constitute the American brand of Churchills.

The army by its failure to grapple honestly with the entire question of race relations and through its abject surrender to the forces of fascism here at home has given Negro Americans all the more reason to oppose the plan to shackle the youth of the nation with compulsory military training.

If the proposal for a peacetime army which flies the Jim Crow flag goes through, a pattern will be set for civilian life which will give the white supremacy forces a most powerful weapon to make Jim Crow the law of the land in civilian as well as army life, in the North as well as the South.

Alabama Vets Parley Blasts Gillem Report

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Negro War veterans of Alabama, meeting here Sunday to set up a statewide organization, assailed the Gillem report and declared "war" on the Army's Jim Crow system.

Holding their first conference of World War II veterans, Alabama's former Negro GIs unanimously voted to reject the Gillem report on the grounds that it was "a gratuitous insult to the democratic aspirations of freedom that characterize the thinking and acting of the Negro people of America."

The resolution, which expressed the sentiment of 145 delegates including two white veterans, from 26 towns and cities in the state, was one of a series of proposals approved by the conference, setting forth the militant stand taken by colored veterans in their pledge to fight for full manhood rights in conjunction with progressive whites and organized labor.

Text of the resolution reads in part:

"Whereas the Gillem report makes it clear that, despite the lessons of World War II, written in the blood of thousands of American Negro and white soldiers, and millions of soldiers of freedom-loving peoples in other lands, our Government will still maintain the hateful and undemocratic policy of a Jim Crow Army in a Nation working for peace through freedom of oppressed peoples everywhere.

"Be it further resolved that this conference goes on record as proclaiming that the Gillem Report, by its very nature, in failing to wipe out Jim Crowism in our Amercian army, constitutes a threat to the progressive development of democracy in this country."

Seek Defeat Of Boswell Bill

Excerpts from other resolutions declared:

"We, Negro Veterans of Alabama, pledge ourselves and call upon our comrades, Negro and white, throughout the state and the nation, to vigorously participate in the organization and struggles of the Negro people of Alabama and the nation in defense of their democratic, and constitutional and human rights and toward the speediest possible liberation of our people from the stifling and oppressive Jim Crow system which is the main feature of the "way of life" in our home state of Alabama."

The conference also declared approval of working to defeat Alabama's Boswell bill, which would give local boards of registrars the right to determine when a prospective voter had interpreted the Constitution satisfactorily.

Delegates to the conference, which was organized by the Veterans' Committee of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, voted to send twenty delegates to the National Veterans' Conference to be held in Chicago, April 6-7.

Army Double-Talk on Jimcrow Is Assailed by Negro Leaders

The Worker, N. Y.
Sun. March 24-46

A careful reading of the Appendix to the Gillem report suggests that even this has no real meaning. Here's what the Board of Officers says:

"Its 'initial objective' is the utilization of the Negro leaders, cutting across party ratio of the manpower made available . . . during the proportionate lines, reflects the same criticism of period . . . as indicated by pertinent recommendations. . . ." But reactions from many Negro leaders this week indicate that it is nothing of the sort.

Typical is the current editorial of the **Chicago Defender**, which "admits" that it "was fooled."

Charging that the War Department release of the Gillem Report at the Negro Publishers meeting was the only way such a report would be "news," the **Defender** wrote:

"The Gillem report in many words reiterates the Army's stand for racial segregation but tries to dilute the Jimcrow formula by presenting it on a smaller scale. Instead of Jimcrow divisions in the Army, the Negro now will be put in Jimcrow platoons. Instead of Negroes winning their spurs as officers because of ability, they still will be dependent for their promotion on the availability of Negro units for them to command. Negro officers will not be allowed to be in higher rank than any white man.

"Perhaps the Gillem report is an advance in that it admits officially for the first time that Jimcrow weakens the military strength of the nation. The Gillem report also cites the tremendous advances made by the Negro. It gives all the reasons for the ending of Jimcrow in the army but refuses to take the actual step of introducing the institution of democracy into the army which ostensibly has been fighting for democracy all over the world for the past four years.

"Good intentions do not win battles. Certainly the army should be the first to recognize this.

"Good intentions will not kill Jimcrow. It takes forthright courage, intelligence and initiative.

"The War Department has demonstrated in the Gillem report that it has neither. It has once again bowed down to the Dixie pattern of life catering to the Bilbos and Rankins who in their own way constitute the American brand of Churchills.

"The army by its failure to grapple honestly with the entire question of race relations and through its abject surrender to the forces of fascism here at home has given Negro Americans all the more reason to oppose the plan to shackle the youth of the nation with compulsory military training.

"If the proposal for a peacetime army which flies the Jim Crow flag goes through, a pattern will be set for civilian life which will give the white supremacy forces a most powerful weapon to make Jim Crow the law of the land in civilian as well as army life, in the North as well as the South."

OTHER REACTIONS

Widely similar reactions among Negro leaders, cutting across party lines, reflects the same criticism of the Gillem report. Some of these people will be convinced that the report will aid the army of Jimcrow; the great danger is that the fight for military equality will be weakened even by a partial acceptance of the report."

Earlier this week, the first Alabama Conference of Negro Veterans of World War II rejected the Gillem report as "a gratuitous insult to the democratic aspirations of freedom that characterize the thinking and acting of the Negro people of America. These veterans, who are led by the Southern Negro Youth Congress also held that the Gillem report "in finding to wipe out Jimcrowism in the American Army, constitutes a threat to the progressive development of democracy in this country."

Sun. 3-24-46

Does the much-publicized War Department's new policy towards the future use of Negro troops mean an "end to Army Jimcrow?"

The Gillem report was at first hailed in many Negro circles as "an end to Jimcrow." But reactions from many Negro leaders this week indicate that it is nothing of the sort.

Typical is the current editorial of the **Chicago Defender**, which "admits" that it "was fooled."

Charging that the War Department release of the Gillem Report at the Negro Publishers meeting was the only way such a report would be "news," the **Defender** wrote:

"The Gillem report in many words reiterates the Army's stand for racial segregation but tries to dilute the Jimcrow formula by presenting it on a smaller scale. Instead of Jimcrow divisions in the Army, the Negro now will be put in Jimcrow platoons. Instead of Negroes winning their spurs as officers because of ability, they still will be dependent for their promotion on the availability of Negro units for them to command. Negro officers will not be allowed to be in higher rank than any white man.

"Perhaps the Gillem report is an advance in that it admits officially for the first time that Jimcrow weakens the military strength of the nation. The Gillem report also cites the tremendous advances made by the Negro. It gives all the reasons for the ending of Jimcrow in the army but refuses to take the actual step of introducing the institution of democracy into the army which ostensibly has been fighting for democracy all over the world for the past four years.

"Good intentions do not win battles. Certainly the army should be the first to recognize this.

"Good intentions will not kill Jimcrow. It takes forthright courage, intelligence and initiative.

"The War Department has demonstrated in the Gillem report that it has neither. It has once again bowed down to the Dixie pattern of life catering to the Bilbos and Rankins who in their own way constitute the American brand of Churchills.

"The army by its failure to grapple honestly with the entire question of race relations and through its abject surrender to the forces of fascism here at home has given Negro Americans all the more reason to oppose the plan to shackle the youth of the nation with compulsory military training.

"If the proposal for a peacetime army which flies the Jim Crow flag goes through, a pattern will be set for civilian life which will give the white supremacy forces a most powerful weapon to make Jim Crow the law of the land in civilian as well as army life, in the North as well as the South."

OTHER REACTIONS

Widely similar reactions among Negro leaders, cutting across party lines, reflects the same criticism of the Gillem report. Some of these people will be convinced that the report will aid the army of Jimcrow; the great danger is that the fight for military equality will be weakened even by a partial acceptance of the report."

Earlier this week, the first Alabama Conference of Negro Veterans of World War II rejected the Gillem report as "a gratuitous insult to the democratic aspirations of freedom that characterize the thinking and acting of the Negro people of America. These veterans, who are led by the Southern Negro Youth Congress also held that the Gillem report "in finding to wipe out Jimcrowism in the American Army, constitutes a threat to the progressive development of democracy in this country." Sun 3-24-46

Army's Jimcrow Policy Is Assailed by Negro Leaders

A careful reading of the Appendix to the Gillem report suggests that even this has no real meaning. Here's what the Board of Officers says:

"Its 'initial objective' is the utilization of the Negro leaders, cutting across party ratio of the manpower made available . . . during the proportionate lines, reflects the same criticism of period . . . as indicated by pertinent recommendations. . . ." But reactions from many Negro leaders this week indicate that it is nothing of the sort.

Typical is the current editorial of the **Chicago Defender**, which "admits" that it "was fooled."

Charging that the War Department release of the Gillem Report at the Negro Publishers meeting was the only way such a report would be "news," the **Defender** wrote:

"The Gillem report in many words reiterates the Army's stand for racial segregation but tries to dilute the Jimcrow formula by presenting it on a smaller scale. Instead of Jimcrow divisions in the Army, the Negro now will be put in Jimcrow platoons. Instead of Negroes winning their spurs as officers because of ability, they still will be dependent for their promotion on the availability of Negro units for them to command. Negro officers will not be allowed to be in higher rank than any white man.

"Perhaps the Gillem report is an advance in that it admits officially for the first time that Jimcrow weakens the military strength of the nation. The Gillem report also cites the tremendous advances made by the Negro. It gives all the reasons for the ending of Jimcrow in the army but refuses to take the actual step of introducing the institution of democracy into the army which ostensibly has been fighting for democracy all over the world for the past four years.

"Good intentions do not win battles. Certainly the army should be the first to recognize this.

"Good intentions will not kill Jimcrow. It takes forthright courage, intelligence and initiative.

"The War Department has demonstrated in the Gillem report that it has neither. It has once again bowed down to the Dixie pattern of life catering to the Bilbos and Rankins who in their own way constitute the American brand of Churchills.

"The army by its failure to grapple honestly with the entire question of race relations and through its abject surrender to the forces of fascism here at home has given Negro Americans all the more reason to oppose the plan to shackle the youth of the nation with compulsory military training.

"If the proposal for a peacetime army which flies the Jim Crow flag goes through, a pattern will be set for civilian life which will give the white supremacy forces a most powerful weapon to make Jim Crow the law of the land in civilian as well as army life, in the North as well as the South."

OTHER REACTIONS

Widely similar reactions among Negro leaders, cutting across party lines, reflects the same criticism of the Gillem report. Some of these people will be convinced that the report will aid the army of Jimcrow; the great danger is that the fight for military equality will be weakened even by a partial acceptance of the report."

Earlier this week, the first Alabama Conference of Negro Veterans of World War II rejected the Gillem report as "a gratuitous insult to the democratic aspirations of freedom that characterize the thinking and acting of the Negro people of America. These veterans, who are led by the Southern Negro Youth Congress also held that the Gillem report "in finding to wipe out Jimcrowism in the American Army, constitutes a threat to the progressive development of democracy in this country." Sun 3-24-46

ARMY'S DOUBLE-TALK

People's Voice which originally took note of the "new" policy as "Jimcrow on a smaller scale" added goal is nothing new; and it has no plans for in between.

"All of this boiled down PV, "boiled down lish, says simply this: immediate goal in the troops is nothing new; its ultimate **Revels Cayton**, executive secretary of the Urban League expressed goal new, and it has no tary of the National Negro Congress, termed the Gillem report a

"We would do well to remember "fraud." Cayon stated: "While few

New Army policy on Negro found not so very new

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Negroes aren't going to be much taken with the Army's new policy on Negroes, which is admittedly "a step forward" but which "does not abolish segregation in the Army", NAACP prophesied last week in its official comment on the Gillem report.

"The new policy provides for Jim Crow platoons instead of Jim Crow divisions", the NAACP statement said. "It also states that 'eventually' Negro officers are expected to command the Negro units. There is some reference to specialists and technicians being used according to their ability, but the main body of the recommendations has to do with the formation of still separate Negro units, under Negro officers, for service in the Army. Although it is stated that Negro officers will be accepted and treated the same as white officers, it is apparent that they will be dependent for promotion upon the openings available in so-called Negro units.

"It is by no means integration and will not answer the legitimate complaints of Negro officers and enlisted men who served in the last war. If it is hoped by this report to secure the support of Negroes for peacetime military conscription, the chances are slim".

The 4,000-plus word report was issued by a committee headed by Lt. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem, Jr., approved by War Secretary Robert Patterson, and ordered put into effect by Chief of Staff General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Jim Crow Army." Wilkins expresses the average sentiments of most Negro and progressive white observers when he accuses the long-awaited Gillem report of dodging the basic cause, namely, racial discrimination, of low morale among Negro fighting men of World War II.

Writes the NAACP official:

"The long-heralded Gillem report of the War Department on the use of Negro personnel in the post-war army was made public March 4, and while it is a study which acknowledges mistakes of the past in utilizing Negro troops, it does not live up to the advance reports that it would abolish segregation in the future army.

Basic Policy Same

"Since the policy of segregation was the basic cause of unrest and low morale among Negro troops, it was reasonable to expect that the Gillem report would attack the basic cause.

"But it does not do so except to allow for the placement of a few specialists and technicians here and there 'in the framework of the overhead units at army installations where Negro personnel with special skills can be utilized to advantage as individuals.'

"The basic policy is still Jim Crow. Instead of having big Jim Crow units like the 92nd and 93rd Infantry Divisions (15,000-18,000 men) we are to have nothing larger than Jim Crow regiments (3,000 men). Throughout the report the reference repeatedly to 'Negro units' shows that the board members never got out of the thought pattern of segregation."

Ray Gives His O.K.

The editor maintains that the report is but a "short step" in the direction of a solution of U. S. Army ills. He especially criticized the report's attempt to belittle the leadership of Negro officers.

Wilkins concludes by saying: "A Negro American soldier is still first a Negro and then a soldier. If the genuinely forward-looking items in the report are followed faithfully, the policy may change, to use its language, 'at some unknown date,' but today, after a costly war against the master race theory, the policy is still in effect."

"Not Final Answer"

On the other hand, at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, speaking at the new Army Information School, recently, Marcus H. Ray, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, took a semi-defensive stand in regard to the report.

"I believe," said Ray, "that the strength of the report lies in the foundation of its approach—the effective and full use of 100 per cent of our nation's manpower."

After pointing out many of the findings and recommendations of the Gillem board, Ray said, "I do not believe that the board report, despite the thoroughness of its background material, the excellency of its conclusions and the forward thinking of its recommendations, represents the final answer to all the problems of the Negro in the Army. I do believe the board represents a sincere effort to correct past mistakes and include the Negro manpower potential within a pattern of evolutionary growth greatly accelerated by education and understanding."

Gillem Report

Chicago Defender

Called Failure

Illinois

By Roy Wilkins

Sat 4-20-46

Board Findings Get Marcus Ray O.K. But With Reservations

NEW YORK—Gillem report or no Gillem report, Jim Crow still marches with the U. S. Army.

This is the opinion voiced by Roy Wilkins, assistant executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and editor of the NAACP publication, The Crisis Magazine.

Writing in the April issue of The Crisis, under the title, "Still A

AVC Attacks Gillem Policy

Baltimore, Md.

5-18-46

Blames War Dept. for Continuing JC

NOT SOLUTION

Afro-American

Complete Revision Needed—Veterans

NEW YORK—Bitterly condemning the War Department for accepting the "modified jim-crow" recommended in the Gillem report, the American Veterans Committee on May 9 declared that the department should have adopted a policy abolishing segregation in the Army for all time.

In a statement, the AVC pointed out that "only through the complete implementation and revision of all Army policies affecting racial minorities" can effective utilization of colored manpower be realized. 5-18-46

Asserting that the development of latent leadership is restricted as a result of the limit placed on the number of segregated colored units, the committee said that a more basic answer to the problem than that set forth in the Gillem report is needed. 5-18-46

Failure Laid to War Dept.

Attributing any failure of colored troops directly to the War Department, the statement said, "There is ample evidence to support the contention that colored combat troops were defeated by Army 'jim crow' even before they met the enemy."

Moreover, it was charged, the minority group soldier was impeded by the fact, that along with helping to destroy the common enemy, "he had the added burden of fighting for his self-respect among his fellow soldiers."

Adding that the Army policy dictated that he be humiliated, often brutalized, but never accorded full stature, the AVC contended, "Men do not make good soldiers when they have been set apart as second-class citizens and soldiers."

Help Map Program

On the day before the statement was issued, AVC representatives, along with those of other major veterans organizations, had met at the Hotel Astor to map out a seven-point program to present to the Federal Government.

In one of the points, revival of the FEPC was urged as a partial means of guaranteeing "elementary rights of equality and democracy." Another recommended that legislation affecting veterans be administered without any discrimination.

The other organizations endorsing the program, which was made public by Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., AVC national housing chairman, are: 5-18-46

Disabled American Veterans, United Negro and Allied Vets of America, Veterans and Wives, Veterans of foreign Wars, Veterans Council of the Indepentent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, the Jewish War Veterans, CIO Veterans Committee and the Duncan-Paris Post of the American Legion.

War Department Follows Gillem Report in Fixing Army Personnel Ratios

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-19-46

New Education Requisite Not Suggested

by Board; Low AGCT Units Valiant in War

By LOUIS LAUTIER
For NNPA News Service

The Gillem Board report on the effective utilization of personnel in the post-war Army is the War Department's Bible in fixing the ratio of colored to white personnel on the basis of the general population.

The War Department says that not more than 90% of the personnel in the Army shall be white.

But nowhere in the Gillem Board's report is it stated that men with less than a high school education, or a score of 99 on an Army General Classification test cannot be made into effective soldiers.

Contradicts Ruling

On the contrary, it contradicts all of the arguments made by Maj. Gen. Willard S. Paul, chief of the personnel division of the Army General Staff, in making a high school diploma a prerequisite to enlisting. It says:

"Testimony before this board shows that units composed of personnel classified in the two lowest grades on the A.G.C.T. scale require more officer supervision

LT. JESSE HICKMAN
of Riverhead, N.Y., who was recently added to the staff of the 777th Field Artillery Battalion at Ft. Knox, Ky. He will serve as platoon commander. All other officers are white. During the war, Lieutenant Hickman was adjutant with the crack 14th Tank Destroyer Battalion in Europe.

With 777th FA

Report

course out of the Red Ball Highway.

Saving Civilization

Of this latter feat, General Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service Forces, said the outcome of the battle of France, and the fate of the civilized world may have rested upon the skill and stamina of truck drivers.

Not all men with low A.G.C.T. scores were in service units. There was the 761st Tank Battalion which fought into Germany from France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Holland. From a technical viewpoint, this battalion is the equal of the

Awards

of the XII Corps, Maj. Gen. M. S. Eddye, commended this battalion for its "conspicuous courage and success"

Won Praise and Awards

Commanding general of the

won commendations on the battlefield. Decorations and awards were received by men of this battalion.

Sixty-eight per cent of the enlisted men won commendations on the battlefield. Decorations and awards were received by men of this battalion.

Eight enlisted men won commendations on the battlefield. Decorations and awards were received by men of this battalion.

Sixty-eight per cent of the enlisted men won commendations on the battlefield. Decorations and awards were received by men of this battalion.

Sixty-eight per cent of this battalion cannot read or write. The truth does not hold.

Sixty-eight per cent of this battalion cannot read or write. The truth does not hold. The truth is resorting to subterfuges to keep colored men out.

62b 1946 U. S. Army (Gillem Report)

New Officer Policy Up to Army...

Pittsburgh Courier 62b

Gillem Board Finds Negro Soldiers Want Good Leadership

EDITOR'S NOTE—Truman K. Gibson Jr., The Pittsburgh Courier's Veterans' Editor, continues his discussion of the Gillem Report. Next week he will discuss the effect of the report on enlisted men.

Pittsburgh Courier

By TRUMAN K. GIBSON Jr., Veterans Editor

In the announcement of War Department policy in regard to Negroes dated Oct. 16, 1940, the following appeared "... the Department does not contemplate assigning colored reserve officers, other than those of the Medical Corps and chaplains, to existing Negro combat units of the Regular Army." This means that the General Staff planned in 1940 to restrict Negro officers to Negro National Guard organizations and to certain emergency-created units. This meant that a rigid ceiling was imposed on the limited number of Negro officers that were planned at that time.

PRESSURE INCREASED

By April of 1942, however, pressures against the Army had increased. Officer candidate schools had been created and the Secretary of War had personally directed that Negroes be selected for the regular classes. The list of the units to which Negro officers could be assigned had to be expanded. This meant that they had to go into organizations where there were white officers. This posed a dilemma that had been avoided up until that time. Should Negroes be assigned to organizations where they would be in command positions over white officers? The answer was written into official Army policy for the first time in April 1942. This was that Negroes should not be over white officers. Then there was started the vicious promotion system which meant that Negro officers could not be individually promoted. Instead they had to go forward as a group.

DID NOT WORK Sat. 4-13-46

In January 1943 it was evident that the policies enunciated in April of the year before had not worked. A new policy was prepared. This policy contained the following gems: "Negro officers will be assigned only to such tpye units and to installations and in grades as are authorized."

Then, there is this reiteration of policies in 1942, "except for medical officers and chaplains, Negro officers will not be assigned in junior grades."

Then there is this to show how much trouble this whole system requires: "Enclosed herewith is a list of types of units authorized for the assignment of Negro officers in the grades indicated, assignment to these units being subject to restrictions provided herein. The commanding generals of Army Ground Forces, Army Air Forces and Service of Supply will select from this list, units to which Negro officers of higher grades than those indicated should be assigned." Attached to this policy was a four-page list of the organizations to which junior Negro officers could be assigned.

In August of the same year, after it had been determined that the January policy had not been effective, a directive went out to the commanding generals of all the major commands commanding them to make a survey of organizations to which Negro officers could be assigned. In the meantime, late in March, and before the Army-wide directive of August, the Army Ground Forces bestirred themselves and started out independently. This command provided for the unprecedented appointment of Negro officers in the grade of captain or higher. However, they included that little joker "In no case will white officers be commanded by Negro officers."

HARM HAD BEEN DONE

With confusion mounting and Army Ground Forces striking out independently, but of course within the limit of the usual restrictions, the Army in January of 1944 revoked and rescinded all of the preceding policies, regulations and others. This new policy provides "That promotion of Negro officers will be in accordance with current War Department regulations." Obviously, this was an admission that all of the preceding policies had not been consistent with general regulations. This new policy went on to encourage the general assignment of Negro officers and omitted the requirement that Negroes not be in positions over white officers. The difficulty with this policy is that it came too late to be effective. The harm had been done by this time.

For example, when I visited the Ninety-second Division in Italy, I found and reported that inequities in the promotion of Negro officers accounted as much as any other single item for the low morale in that organization. In my report to the War Department the following appeared:

"On the promotion policy, it is interesting to note that many white and colored officers made substantially similar comments. There are at present 576 colored officers in the division. out of a total of 830. There are forty-six Negro company commanders, of which number twelve are in the 371st Infantry Regiment, fourteen in the 365th, and none in the 370th. Of the Negro company commanders, three have efficiency ratings of superior, thirty-three excellent, nine very satisfactory and two unsatisfactory. In connection with the total number of officers it should be noted that two field artillery battalions and 587th and 600th, are entirely officered by Negro officers.

"The shifts in the 370th Infantry Regiment which have been previously referred to have intensified the feeling on the part of Negro officers and enlisted men that the division command has no confidence in Negro officers. According to G-I of the division, there are no reclassification procedures pending against any officer in the division." Sat. 4-13-46

COMMANDERS SHIFTED

The shifts in the 371st Regiment referred to were consistent with the vicious system that blocked the promotion of Negroes. Because a number of new white officers were entering that regiment all the Negro company commanders were being shifted so that they would not command the white second lieutenants. Since this regiment was being constituted as a sort of super assault unit, nearly all of the men in this division interpreted this shift as meaning that no matter how good a colored officer was in the division, he was never quite as good as the most inferior white officer.

The Gillem Report represents the last of several steps towards the proper integration of Negro officers. Using the tragic and morale-shattering effects of the vicious policies in effect before 1944 as evidence, the Gillem Board faced squarely the issue that officers in the U. S. Army could be neither white nor colored, they had to be officers. The reference to equal opportunities in the report means just what is says, that Negro officers will be promoted and when promoted will be used in appropriate vacancies.

BOARD AVOIDS BIAS

I personally know that the issue of having Negro officers serve over whites was presented to the board because I presented it. On this, the Gillem Board specifically said that when that time came, Negro officers would be assigned to those positions and consequently that Negroes would serve over whites. This position has since been reduced to writing and is included among other papers and documents that constitute the official War Department file on this subject. Sat. 4-13-46

The position of the Gillem Board on the oft-contended issue that Negro soldiers would not follow Negro leadership is as satisfying as their recommendations on policy. They threw this absurd generalization right out of the window as they should have. They found that Negro soldiers want **good** leadership just as other soldiers. Their officers can be either white or colored as long as they are good. They resent bad Negro leadership as quickly as that from whites. In instances where Negro soldiers expressed dissatisfaction with Negro officers, one or more of the following reasons were always present:

(1) That Negro officers were either incompetent or inefficient. This resulted in many instances from poor initial selections. Many white officers in selecting Negroes for Officer Candidate Schools picked the "Uncle Toms" and passed over trained, intelligent men. Sat. 4-13-46

(2) That Negro officers had not functioned properly because their morale had been crushed with a consequent effect on their efficiency. While I was in Italy this was vividly illustrated by several Negro officers saying to me, "To hell with the war." They had been passed over in promotions and to cap the climax had been segregated in the use of officers' clubs at Viareggro, Italy.

(3) That the caste system had had its effect on the soldiers. Negro soldiers are human with human failings and weaknesses. When they wanted something done they wanted to have access to officers who could produce. In Southern localities where Negro officers were treated as a class in between enlisted men, warrant officers and officers it is understandable that some Negro soldiers would go to the men whose words they thought carried weight. The Gillem Board, in placing the responsibility for these conditions on the Army and not on Negroes, performed a real service. Sat. 4-13-46

The implementation of this new officer policy is, of course, up to the Army. However, we civilians cannot afford to sit back and adopt the attitude that the Army is no good and then w' something happens point the ger and explain gleefully, "I old you so." There will be too many Negroes in the Army for that, despite the clamor of a potent political minority that is opposing American preparedness for defense. What we need to do is to become informed of Army plans, insist that these plans be carried out and point out inequities in the operation of the new system.

ON GILLEM REPORT

Army Bias Analyzed

The Defender

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON—Charges that through its application, continued discrimination may serve to reduce Negro strength in the regular army are being borne out by War department reports, smacking of Democracy in reverse.

This week the War Department announced that 31 Negroes are among 9,800 officers appointed to the regular army June 28, and confirmed by the Senate July 3.

Rescreening Sought

Simultaneously, Marcus Ray, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War requested the War Department to re-screen all regular army personnel with a view to discharging all men falling in aptitude classifications IV and V.

Ray told the Defender that he is opposed to the quota system set up by the Gillem Board. He pointed out that through its application, we will shut off further acceptance of qualified Negro personnel desirous of coming into the regular army to be "absorbed in the mass."

The Civilian Aide said those who remain, "will be subjected to a special plan through which the War Department may reduce the number of Negroes in the regular army to conform with

tion placed on the officer by his last three commanders, Here again it is believed that the factor of race plays an important part in the process.

Peak Strength

At peak strength in August, 1945, the U. S. Army had an enlisted strength of 8,000,000 men with an officer strength of 800,000. Of the total number of officers, 7,768 were Negroes. The Negro enlisted strength for this same period was 702,758. It is estimated that officer strength usually equals about 10 per cent of the total enlisted personnel. On a basis of this assertion, Negro officer strength in relation to Negro enlisted personnel has never even approached an equitable distribution.

On May 1, 1946, Negro strength in the army was 187,383. Of this number, 2,626, or little more than one per cent were officers.

At present, total army strength is 1,550,000. By July 1, 1947, it is expected that this number will have been reduced to 1,070,000. Under the present 10 per cent ceiling put on Negro enlisted personnel by the Gillem Board, the number of Negroes in the army will be expected to be reduced to 107,000, and in no instance to exceed 12.2 per cent or 130,540.

The present rate at which Negroes are volunteering for the regular army is keeping the ratio of Negroes above the 10 per cent ceiling. It is expected that when Selective Service resumes inductions in September, the induction of Negroes may be reduced, otherwise demobilization of men already in the service will be considerably accelerated.

Officers Listed

Names of 31 officers, included in the list of regular army nominees announced by the War Department follow:

Name, Address, Temporary Grade and Permanent Grade as follows:

Lee A. Archer, 350 W. 119th st., New York, N. Y.; 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt.

Bradley Biggs, 687 N. 7th st., Newark, N. J.; Captain; 1st Lt.

Matthew D. Branch, 1946 2nd st., N.W., Washington, D. C.; 1st Lt.; 1st Lt.

Nelson S. Brooks, 4642 S. Michigan ave., apt. 2-B, Chicago, Ill.; Lt. Col.; 1st Lt.

Robert A. Bryant, 620 S. 16th st., Philadelphia, Pa.; Captain; Captain.

William A. Campbell, Box 218, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala.; Major; 1st Lt.

Elwood T. Driver, 30 Foutain ave., Trenton, N. J.; Captain; 1st Lt.

Lewis M. Durden, Howard University, Washington, D. C.; Captain; Captain.

Robert J. Friend, 460 Manhattan ave., New York, N. Y.; Captain; 2nd Lt.

William E. Gott, 20 High st., Ridgewood, N. J.; Captain; 1st Lt.

George E. Gray, 886 McDowell st., Hemphill, W. Va.; Captain; 1st Lt.

Jack D. Holsclaw, 2301 College ave., Spokane, Wash.; Captain; 1st Lt.

Brannon J. Hopson, Box 692, Kosciusko, Miss.; Major Major.

George J. Iles, 2026 Spruce st., Quincy, Ill.; 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt.

Andrew L. Johnson, CCC Camp S-132, Norwich, N. Y.; Captain; Captain.

Edward C. Johnson, 4119 South Parkway, Chicago, Ill.; Major; Captain.

George L. Knox, 435 Douglas st. Indianapolis, Ind.; Major; 1st Lt.

Armour C. McDaniel, 804 E. Church st., Martinsville, Va.; Major; 1st Lt.

Alfred E. McWilliams, Box 188 Texas College, Tyler, Texas; Captain; Captain

Spurgeon A. Moore, 278 Scott ave. Akron 4, Ohio; 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt.

Leonard S. Morgan, 4263 W. North Market st., St. Louis, Mo.; 1st Lt.; 1st Lt.

Albert J. Parker, 1121 13th st., Portsmouth, Ohio; 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt.

Norman W. Parsons, New Cumberland, W. Va.; Major; Captain.

Melvin W. Ormes, 609 S. Union ave., Salem, Ohio; Captain; Captain

Harry B. Reubel, 230 W. 147th st., New York, N. Y.; Lt. Col.; Major

James H. Robinson, 3314 Warder st., N.W., Washington, D. C.; Lt. Col.; Major

Osborne E. Scott, 15 Booker st., Phoebus, Va.; Captain; Captain

Robert L. Smith, 4204 Oats st., Houston, Texas; Captain; 1st Lt.

Roy W. Sorrell, 717 Logan st., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Captain; Captain

Charles R. Stanton, 5265 North 8th ave., Portland, Oregon; Captain; 1st Lt.

Cecil W. White, 1214 Lapsby st., Selma, Ala.; 1st Lt.; 2nd Lt.

Negro officers already assigned to the regular army include seven West Point graduates: Col. B. O. Davis, Maj. James Fowler, First Lt. Ernest J. Davis, and First Lt. Henry M. Francis, all of Washington; Maj. Clarence M. Davenport, Detroit; First Lt. Mark E. Rivers, New York, and Second Lt. Andrew A. McCoy, Pittsburgh. In addition there are four chaplains: Lt. Col. Louis J. Beasley, Atlanta; Maj. John A. Deveaux, Jacksonville, Fla.; Maj. James C. Griffin, Washington, and Capt. Norman C. Long, Oberlin, O.

62b 1946 U. S. Army (Officers)

Ex-Officers Get New Chance to Be Commissioned in Army

The Afro-American

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Officers in the Army of the United States who applied for commissions in the Regular Army and were turned down, with few exceptions, have a second opportunity to get such commissions. Under the current integration program, 25,000 officers will be taken in.

Maj. Gen. Willard S. Paul, chief of personnel of the Army General Staff, announced, last Wednesday, that supplementary information from candidates for Regular Army commissions must be received by Army commanding officers within the next 10 days, however.

Although applications from so-called "new" candidates will be accepted until midnight Dec. 31, supplementary information from those who applied in the original integration program last summer will not be accepted if mailed later than midnight, Nov. 30.

Army to Select Future Officers by Competition

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat.

WASHINGTON—(NNPA) — A new plan for the selection of officer candidates for the Army, effective Feb. 1, next, was announced Nov. 23, by the War Department. 11-30-46

Under the plan, selection for attendance at OCS will be made on the basis of Army-wide competition, with each applicant executing certain scored testing devices from which will be derived composite scores.

IQ Must Be 109

Men with a recorded Army General Classification Test score of below 109, conscientious objectors and men with criminal records are ineligible for selection. Men holding or having held reserve or AUS commissions are also ineligible.

Regular Army enlisted men with less than nine months of service remaining in their current enlistment are not eligible, but may become so by etxending their enlistment. At present, Army officer candidate classes occur every three weeks, starting with 200 candidates in each class.

Major Day Leaves Post at Washington for Yokohoma, Japan

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Maj. Daniel E. Day, Field Artillery, former chief of the Negro Interest Unit, War Department Public Relations Division, left here on Nov. 18 for California, en route to Yokohoma, Japan, for assignment with the U.S. Army forces in the Pacific. Sat.

Major Day was among the latest officers' group to be assigned overseas under the War Department directive of June, 1946, which makes eligible for foreign service, officers who have not served a stipulated period of time overseas and wish to remain on active duty. 11-30-46

Army Seeking Qualified Officers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The Army is seeking qualified colored male officers to help swell the commissioned strength to a recently authorized ceiling of 50,000. Applications must be forwarded or postmarked prior to Dec. 31 in order to be considered.

Those who qualify under a processing program, which closely parallels that employed to select an initial increment of 9,813 officers late in June, will be added to the consideration list, and given equal opportunity on the basis of qualification with those already listed.

Rejects not Eligible

A formal application is required of officers who have not previously applied, and a supplementary form is required of previous applicants who are eligible.

It was pointed out that original applicants, not among the initial 9,813 given Regular Army commissions, may assume they are on the consideration list unless they have been formally notified by the War Department to the contrary. The Afro-American

Those who have been notified of rejection will not be eligible. Others may restate their interest in being commissioned as a Regular Officer and change their choice of branches before the integration of the 25,000 new Regular Officers is begun, regardless of status. Baltimore, Md.

Emphasis on 2 Ranks

Tentative plans for integration of these officers call for appointments to be made, in four increments, in January, May, September and December of 1947. Sat.

It is anticipated that greater emphasis will be given to commissioned officers in the ranks of captain and major than was given in the first integration. 11-26-46

62b 1946 U. S. Army (Rejections)

Sues Army on Jim Crow

PM New York, N.Y. Thurs. 12-19-46

By United Press

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 19.—An injunction suit seeking to stop all further enlistments into the U. S. Army until segregation of Negroes is banned has been filed in Federal Court by a Negro father whose son was refused enlistment.

The suit will be "carried to the Supreme Court if necessary," according to the Committee against Discrimination, which co-operated in filing the brief.

Named as defendants were Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson and Lt. Col. Robert W. Springer, Pittsburgh recruiting officer, who were charged with refusing enlistment to Henry D. Stewart.

The suit asked that "all further army enlistments" be enjoined until Negroes are accepted on equal terms with whites. It said that inducements offered for enlistment, including the GI Bill of Rights, constitute a "valuable property right" of which Stewart desired to take advantage, and charges that "double standards" applied to Negroes violate the Preamble and Fifth Amendment of the Constitution. 12-19-46

In Washington, a War Dept. official said the Department had not been notified of the suit.

Asks $3,000

Volunteer Rejected: Sues Army

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 12-28-46

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Henry Stewart, 18, 519 Brereton Avenue, filed suit Wednesday for $3,000, exclusive of costs and damages, in the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Pennsylvania against Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War, and Lieut. Col. Robert W. Springer, Commanding Officer, Headquarters Recruiting District, in "their official capacity only."

Hyman Schlessinger, Park Building, attorney for the plaintiff, alleged that on or about June 30 Stewart "presented himself to the Army Recruiting Station in the city of Pittsburgh, and volunteered to enlist in the Army of the United States, but was rejected solely because he is a Negro, under regulations theretofore issued by the defendant Secretary of War, barring Negro enlistment except in highly restricted specialist grades, while putting no such restrictions on white enlistments."

According to the complaint, the plaintiff is a minor, having been born in the State of North Carolina on Oct. 15, 1928. It further alleged that although the would-be volunteer had answered fifty-four of fifty-eight questions correctly, on an entrance examination given him, "nevertheless, because of the fact that Negro or colored applicants were required under the regulations to have a higher passing grade in said tests than white applicants, his application for enlistment was rejected by defendant Commanding Officer and his subordinates. The plaintiff believes and avers that his grades on said tests were higher than the minimum grades required of white applicants and that he was rejected solely because he is a Negro."

Second Suit Filed Against Army JC

The Afro-American

Pittsburgh Youth Says Testing Setup Unfair

Baltimore, Md.

PITTSBURGH — A father whose son was refused enlistment on Dec. 18, filed an injunction suit which would ban all further enlistments in the Army until racial segregation and discrimination are abolished. Sat. 12-28-46

The second suit designed to eliminate barriers, it is similar to that which the AFRO-AMERICAN sponsored successfully in behalf of Robert B. Kelly Jr. of Washington, who had been rejected early in September on practically the same grounds.

Secretary of War Robert P Patterson and Lt. Col. Robert W Springer, commanding officer of the Pittsburgh recruiting district, were named defendants, and charged with refusing enlistment to Henry D. Steward Jr. of Pittsburgh.

Wants Enlistments Halted

The complaint asks first that "all further Army enlistments" be enjoined until colored men are accepted on equal terms with whites.

In addition, it requests a declaratory judgment against enforcement of relations that set up different requirements for colored personnel and place them in special Army units by reason of color alone. Afro-American

Stewart first tried to enlist June 30, 1946, the suit said, and was told no colored men were being taken except in highly specialized categories. He again tried to enlist in October 15 and was permitted to take general enlistment tests. Baltimore, Md.

Although he answered correctly 50 of 54 questions, he was barred again because standards for colored personnel are substantially higher than for whites, the suit avers. Sat. 12-28-46

May Go to High Court

The suit will be "carried to the Supreme Court if necessary," according to the Committee Against Discrimination, which co-operated in filing the brief.

In the AFRO-sponsored suit, filed by Charles H. Houston and Joseph B. Waddy, Washington attorneys who served without pay, six injunctions were sought against the War Department and Selective Service Headquarters.

Education Requirements Differ

However, before the case was brought to court, the War Department did an about-face and ordered the immediate induction of Kelly and also lifted some of the discriminatory requirements.

Under the present Army policy, colored men are accepted for enlistment only if they possess a high school education while no such requirement is made of white applicants for enlistment.

In Washington, it was stated that the Army General Staff is now working on a new policy which will limit the number of men in grades 4 and 5, the lowest categories under the Army General Classification test, which the Army can absorb in every 1000 men enlisting.

NEGRO SUIT CHARGES SEGREGATION IN ARMY

The Times New York, N. Y.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 18 (U.P.)—An injunction suit to stop all further enlistments into the Army until the segregation of Negroes is banned was filed in Federal court today by a Negro father whose son was refused enlistment.

The suit will be "carried to the Supreme Court if necessary," according to the Committee Against Discrimination, which cooperated in filing the brief.

Named as defendants were Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War, and Lieut. Col. Robert W. Springer, commanding officer of the Pittsburgh recruiting district, who were charged with refusing enlistmen to Henry D. Stewart of Pittsburgh. Thurs. 12-19-46.

The suit asked that "all further Army enlistments" be enjoined until Negroes are accepted on equal terms with whites, and asked a declaratory judgment against enforcement of all rules that set up special enlistment requirements for Negroes and place them in special Army units by reason of color alone.

Stewart first tried to enlist June 30, 1946, the suit said, and was told no Negroes were being taken except in highly specialized categories. He again tried to enlist on Oct. 15 and was permitted to take general enlistment tests in which he answered correctly fifty of fifty-four questions, but again was barred because standards for Negroes are substantially higher than for whites, the suit averred.

62b 1946

U.S. Navy

Navy Integrated, Says Afro-American Officer Insists

Baltimore, Md.

BIRMINGHAM (ANP)—Speaking in the interest of the Navy recruiting program, directed to youths between 17 and 21, Lt. Com. Edward S. Hope told a group of business men here, last week, that the U.S. Navy has only one policy that of "one Navy."

Sat. 12-28-46

Traveling specifically to tell educators of the officers' training and naval aviation corps programs, the officer sketched the opportunities he saw in the Navy for youths to gain security, win status and achievement prestige.

He declared that both programs provide an opportunity for a free four-year college education, a commission, a career, a new field of activity, and a chance to travel and learn about people.

Officer Training Offered by Navy

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The first nation-wide competitive examination for the Officer College Training Program of the U.S. Navy, is scheduled for Jan. 18 and will be open to high school seniors or graduates within the age requirements, Navy officials have announced. Sat. 12-14-46

Students selected by these competitive examinations will be offered entrance in either the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) or the Naval Aviation College Program (NACP).

Those selecting the former program will attend one of the 52 colleges or universities having NROTC units, where they will receive from the Government, the cost of their tuition, books, and normal fees and $50 a month for the four-year period of education.

Permanent Commissions

Upon graduation, they may be commissioned in the Regular Navy. If commissioned, requirements call for two years of active duty. Upon completion of these two years, they may apply for a permanent commission in the Regular Service or transfer to the Reserve and return to civilian life.

Otherwise, after the two years at college they may be given Reserve commissions and released on inactive duty and provided opportunity to return to college for two more years with tuition, books and fees and $100 a month furnished by the Navy.

The Navy Aviation College Program offers the same Government benefits at any accredited university, college or junior college for two years, and two years of flight training and flight duty as midshipmen, toward permanent commissions in the regular service.

IN SAN FRANCISCO

The Defender

Legionnaires Beat Negro Vets

Chicago, Ill.

By FRED ATWATER
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO—(Special) — Race-hating legionnaires, here to attend the 28th American Legion Convention, forgot the heroism of their Negro buddies of World Wars I and II Wednesday morning when a throng of the whites brutally attacked and dispersed the veterans who had assembled in front of the Convention hall to protest discrimination against Negroes in legion posts across the nation. Sat. 10-12-46

The veterans had been marching peacefully for approximately 35 minutes when suddenly they were rushed by the howling legionnaires who viciously struck them down, destroyed their signs and said, "Get out of here—we don't want you."

Despite the fact that the pickets were within their rights as defined by the U.S. Constitution, police made no arrests following the attack. The pickets, veterans of World Wars I and II, sought only to secure that which was justly due them after fighting two wars against foreign fascism. They were attacked the morning of the same day that the legion staged its gigantic post-war victory parade, a super-colossal pageant which kept the Market street trolleys out of business for 10 hours.

Edgar G. Brown, one of the leading pickets, said "he and a group of about 30 Negroes picketing the convention were roughly dispersed by legionnaires."

"I was carrying a sign which asked that open membership in all American Legion posts, North and South, be made available to one million Negro war veterans on the basis of equality of sacrifice—not race or color," Brown said.

"We began marching in front of Legion Convention hall about 10:30 a.m., and everything went along quietly until after 11 a.m., when a group of Legionnaires rushed us, knocked us down, tore up the sign, ripped my trousers in several places, and told us:

"'Get out of here — we don't want you.'"

Following the racial flareup, the Legion launched its parade, first since Pearl Harbor. There was a sprinkling of War II veterans but the parade for the most part was comprised of middle-agers. Massed colors, flashy drum and bugle corps, many versions of the 40 and 8, and comely majorettes maintained parade traditions.

Among those in the reviewing stand were Fleet Adm. William F. Halsey, Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, Gen. Carl Spaatz and Maj. Gen. Louis B. Hershey.

Georgia Legion Okays Negro Posts

MACON, Ga., July 25—(AP)—Establishment of Negro American Legion posts in each county in Georgia was authorized yesterday by the Executive Committee of the State Department of the Legion.

The recent state convention of the Legion approved the Negro posts.

Florida Legion Sets Up JC Posts

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Formerly Lily-White Group Changes Policy

Sat. 9-28-46

ORLANDO, Fla. — Apparently to forestall the organizational efforts of the American Veterans Committee and other liberal veterans organizations which accept all ex-service men on an equal basis, the Florida American Legion recently belatedly extended membership status to colored veterans.

Upon its organization at the close of World War I, the Florida American Legion refused to grant Legion membership to any colored veteran, but in an effort to control them, sponsored the organization of the "Colored Veterans of the World War."

That organization, which until recently had 45 posts, was disbanded at the Florida Legion organization meeting held here on Aug. 6 and the 45 posts, along with six additional chapters, became posts of the American Legion.

Changed State Constitution

The mass entry of colored posts came after the Florida Department convention of the Legion held in West Palm Beach in May had amended the State Department Legion constitution to make it possible.

The members of the segregated Legion posts set up by the convention were intitated on Aug. 7, here, and paraded through downtown Orlando to the music of several bands and drum and bugle corps, with a detachment of soldiers from the Orlando Air Base as escort.

Colored Legion Post Here Will Receive Charter

Brunswick's colored post of the American Legion, which has been given the name of Glynn Post No. 507, will receive its charter at interesting exercises Wednesday night at 8 o'clock at the recreation building in Suggs center, it was announced today.

Members of the local post and of Guale post of St. Simons, the two white legion posts in the county, will be present for the program. The charter will be presented the colored organization by Commander Edward B. Liles, of the local post, and Hoyt Brown, commander of the island post, will take part in the program.

The charter will be accepted on behalf of the colored post by George F. Gaskin, who will serve as its first commander.

Officers of the colored post will be installed by Col. Jas. D. Gould, a former commander of Brunswick post. The committee in charge said today that all colored veterans of World War one and two, whether or not they are members of the new post, are invited to attend the exercises Wednesday night.

The colored post was formed with the cooperation of Brunswick post, Paul Newman being chairman of the committee which handled the details.

KINSTON PLANS RITES FOR NEGRO VETS TODAY

Kinston, July 3.—A homecoming program for Negro war veterans will begin with a memorial service in honor of 18 youths who lost their lives in the recent war, at the courthouse at noon on Thursday, it was announced today. The program is being sponsored by the Harris Croom Post of the American Legion, according to Commander McKinley Battle.

The memorial program will open with singing of "America" and a word of greeting from Mayor Guy Elliott of Kinston. Commander Battle will introduce the principal speaker, Lt. Col. Oscar E. Holder, Episcopal clergyman and member of the U. S. Army Reserve Chaplains Corps, who is chaplain for the New York Branch of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America. Capt. James Porter, commanding officer of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion at Fort Bragg will also speak briefly, and George B. Lane, post service officer, will read the list of 18 honored dead.

A parade on Queen Street will follow the ceremony and will feature bands from Camp Lejeune, Wilson, New Bern, Goldsboro, and a drill team from Fort Bragg. A special barbecue dinner will be served at Mitchell Wooten Courts at the close of the parade and special entertainment will be offered the 2,000 visitors expected here for the program.

HOWARD FORREST NEGRO LEGION POST OFFICERS ARE INSTALLED

The Howard Forrest Post number 502 of the American Legion Valdosta's Negro Legion Post, met Sunday at the South Ashley U. S. O. Building. Officers and members were officially installed and inducted by State Legion Commander John Williams, of Valdosta.

Installations were C. R. Hudson, Post Commander, Mathew Harris, senior vice commander; Louis J. Mays, junior vice commander; H. E. McKenzie, Post adjutant; Willie L. Golden, assistant adjutant; Albert Dockett, post finance officer; Eddie Fletcher, Post historian; Sylvester Jones, sergeant at arms; and Lloyd Murphy, Post chaplain.

State Commander John Williams delivered a cordial acceptance of the Howard Forrest Post, and spoke to those assembled. The installation of Hudson as commander was made by Mr. Williams.

Hudson was also installed a commander of the Eleventh Georgia Legion District, which includes all the Negro Posts in the state.

Howard Forrest Post Commander Hudson expressed his gratitude for having been elected to this office. A response was given by Forrest Post member F. L. Collier, a World War II veteran.

Honorary guests were State Commander John Williams, Mayor H. B. Edwards, Valdosta Post 13, commander Tommie Giddens, possmaster Ashley McLeod, Harmon-Williams, ValdoIsta Post 13 past commander; H. K. Wilkinson; Ed Barham, H. B. Edwards, Jr., and Preston Sessions, Valdosta Post 13 adjutant.

WILL CHARTER NEGRO LEGION POST TONIGHT

Albany's first Negro American Legion post will be chartered in ecremonies tonight at 8 o'clock in Madison High School.

The post, according to Wallace Crouch, commander of Albany Post 30, will be known as Joseph Odom Post 512. The Negro post, he said, will be chartered under the national Legion organization and will be under the jurisdiction of the Department of Georgia. It also will become a part of District 11, a Legion district established exclusively for Negro posts.

A Negro veterans organization has been active here for a great many years, Commander Crouch explained, but had not been affiliated with the Legion.

Presenting the charter to the Negro post tonight will be E. T. Hughes, of Camilla, commander of the Legion's Second District organization. All past commanders of Albany Post 30, and all other Legionnaires, are invited to attend the ceremony.

Commander of the new Negro post is M. F. Jackson, a World War II veteran. Adjutant of the post is J. D. Anderson, World War I veteran long identified with Negro veterans' activities here.

Prominent individuals who addressed the early sessions including Retiring Commander John Stelle, keynoter; FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover, Gov. Earl Warren, Admiral Chester Nimitz and other Legion officers.

NEGRO LEGION OFFICE
American Legion

J. D. Anderson, Americus insurance adjutant of a newly organized Negro post of the American Legion, has been approved by a majority of the post district, the petition will be forwarded to the state American Legion executive committee and issuance of a charter will be a matter of form.

Posts which will receive the petition for consideration are located in the district as follows: Americus, Camilla, Centreville, Liberty, Meadville and Fayette.

Petition will be sent to five Legion posts in this district for approval of a petition for consideration and letters recommending approval will be dispatched by the Natchez post.

NATCHEZ LEGION BACKS NEGRO POST

NATCHEZ — (Special) — Herbert J. Remondet Post No. 4, National Legion of the U. S. A. Veteran of World War I, has voted approval of a petition for issuance of a charter to a newly organized Negro Legion post to be organized here.

The petition will be sent to five Legion posts in this district for consideration and letters recommending approval will be dispatched by the Natchez post. If approved by a majority of the post district, the petition will be forwarded to the state American Legion executive committee and issuance of a charter will be a matter of form.

Negroes Play Minor Role at Legion Meet

The Call
Kansas City, Mo
Fri.-10-11-46

SAN FRANSCISCO.— (PPS)— Although approximately 500 Negro veterans from every section of the United States attended the annual American Legion convention which opened here Monday, none of them were placed on any of the Important committees, such as the resolutions committee and the Americanism committee.

Colored veterans pushed for consideration of the equal voting privileges, but there was little indication that they would be successful in getting the measure to the floor.

Considerable interest was given the struggle of the World War II vets to obtain what they considered their rightful place on the national committees which heretofore have been monopolized by the doughboys of World War I.

Caucases were meeting everywhere as various groups of Legionnaires were attempting to draw up resolutions and gain support for numerous proposals.

Dixie Drops Bars

The Courier

La., Florida Legions Absorb Negro Posts

Pittsburgh, Pa. Aug. 8-3-46

NEW ORLEANS, La.—American Legion conventions meeting in two Deep South States recently took action absorbing colored posts into their State Departments. Action authorizing organization of colored posts in Louisiana was taken at the Twenty-eighth Annual Convention of the Legion, meeting at Alexandria on Sunday. Similar action was taken by the Florida Department earlier.

The Louisiana resolution admitting Negro posts to the State Department was adopted following long, heated arguments during which charges and counter-charges were hurled. The Florida action was taken at a meeting held two weeks ago in West Palm Beach.

As a result of the West Palm Beach convention Dr. Ira P. Davis, Miami dentist, has been appointed acting comander of AL District II, comprising all Negro posts in the State. These will meet in Orlando, August 5-8, with Dr. Davis presiding over the organization of the newly created district. Ten district vice commanders will be named. The Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

FVWW TO DISSOLVE

It is at this meeting, also where the dissolution of the Florida Veterans of the World Wars will take place and become the first meeting of recognized Negro American Legionaires in the history of Florida. Dr. J. E. Bush of Jacksonville is president commander of FVWW.

Negro women also will be absorbed into the Women Auxiliary of the American Legion, according to Mrs Genevieve Ryan, Dania, Fla., State president of the Florida Auxiliary to the American Legion.

Action at Alexandria by the Louisiana department will make the AL in this State among the largest departments in the country. Previous figures on State memberships have been given as 45,235. Ten new posts are to receive charters following the recent Louisiana State convention. Sat. 8-3-46

Criticizes the American Legion

The Courier-Journal

Here's an excerpt from an article that appeared in the Louisville Defender, October 12, 1946:

"San Francisco—Negro veterans of World War I and II were attacked by their white buddies here Wednesday morning while they were picketing the 28th annual American Legion Convention for discriminating against Negro veterans in Legion posts all over the country. Louisville, Ky.

"A throng of white veterans rushed the pickets who were parading in front of Convention Hall here, and succeeded in dispersing them. Picket signs were knocked to the ground and the Negro pickets were told to 'get out of here—we don't want you.'"

This action comes from an organization that calls itself 100 per cent American and I might add that the American Legion has not repudiated the ignominy. It might also be observed at this point that the American Legion took no action against Columbians, Inc., the race-hating secret order in Atlanta. According to reports in Sunday's Courier-Journal (November 3) it was the American Veterans' Committee that helped instigate action.

If these two events are typical of the Legion's Americanism (and I fear experience has shown they are), I want no part of it. Mgr. WHITE VETERAN.

Louisville. 1 2 - 2 - 46

CHARTER PRESENTATION: E. T. Hughes, of Camilla (left), commander of the American Legion Second District organization; Wallace Crouch (second from left), commander of the Legion's Albany Post 30 and M. F. Jackson (third from left), commander of the city's first Negro Legion post, inspects the latter organization's charter, formally presented at ceremonies in Madison High School Thursday night. E. J. Marshal (right), service officer of the new post, and J. D. Anderson (second from right), its adjutant, smile approvingly. (Herald Staff Photo.)

White Vets Attack Pickets Who Protest Legion Setup

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-12-46

SAN FRANCISCO (ANP) — Veterans of World Wars I and II were attacked by their white buddies last Wednesday morning while they were picketing the 28th annual American Legion convention for discrimination in Legion posts all over the country.

A throng of white veterans rushed the pickets and succeeded in dispersing them. Their signs were knocked to the ground and the pickets were told, "Get out of here—we don't want you."

Edgar Brown on Hand

Edgar G. Brown, who dashed here for the convention, joined the 30 pickets and was among those attacked and mauled.

He was carrying a sign which asked that open membership in all American Legion posts, North and South, be made available to veterans on the basis of equality of sacrifice—not race or color, he said.

Picketing had been under way approximately 35 minutes when the race-hating white veterans stormed the picket line.

Police failed to make an arrest after the incident was reported, although the veterans were within their Constitutional rights. No action has been taken by the convention delegates to bring the racial incident to the convention floor.

10-Hour Parade

A 10-hour parade and Legion pageant, the first of its kind since Pearl Harbor, followed the attack on the veterans. The parade, for the most part, was made up of middle-agers with a sprinkling of World War II veterans.

In the reviewing stand were: Fleet Adm. William F. Halsey Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright Gen. Carl Spaatz and Maj. Gen Louis B. Hershey. John Stelle, national commander, charged Gen. Omar Bradley, veterans administrator, with "breaking faith," with the veterans on the on-the-job training program.

A move to open American Le- gion posts to all veterans in all- parts of the country has been un- derway for several years. Officials ook action this year on the prob- lem of granting charters to Sou- minority veterans.

62c 1946

American Legion

Compose Separate

Miami Fla. Herald
July 29, 1946

Legion To Absorb Negroes

Absorption by the Florida department of the American Legion of the state organization of Colored Veterans of the World Wars, was announced Tuesday by H. Frost Bailey, Miami, commander of Florida Legionnaires.

Bailey explained the action is being taken under authorization granted the state Legion department at its recent convention in West Palm Beach, opening Legion membership to negroes in a separate district.

Dr. Ira P. Davis, Bailey said, has been appointed acting commander of district 11, composed of Legion posts in the state which are composed exclusively of negroes.

Dr. Davis has called a meeting of district II for Orlando Aug. 7 and 8 to organize the new district and to name 10 district vice commanders.

Dr. J. E. Bush, Jacksonville, president commander of Florida Colored Veterans of the World Wars, will preside at a prior meeting in Orlando Aug. 5 and 6 when ceremonies will be held dissolving the organization and admitting its members into the Legion as members of various posts comprising district II.

Mrs. Genevieve Ryan of Dania, state president of the Florida auxiliary of the Legion, announced her organization will follow the plan of the Legion and will admit negro women as members of the auxiliary.

The auxiliary of the Colored Veterans will meet with the men's organization in Orlando to dissolve its group, preliminary to being absorbed as a body by the Legion auxiliary of district II. Aline C. Bradley, Fernandina, has been appointed acting district president.

First steps to admit negroes into Legion posts of the South were taken at a meeting in Birmingham a year ago, when representatives of all states South of the Mason-Dixon line met, at the invitation of Alabama, and recommended they be admitted in separate districts composed of their own posts.

Texas was the first state to install negroes into full membership after the Alabama meeting. It formerly had the same organization that exists now in Florida, with the Colored Veterans of the World Wars as a separate group.

There are at present 100 posts of the negro veterans in Florida, with 32 units of the auxiliary, Bailey said. In its first year, he predicted, district II will have a membership of 4,000 Legionnaires.

Equal Vote Fight Waged in Legion

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Vets Denied Weighty Committee Privileges

Sat. 10-12-46

SAN FRANCISCO (Pacific Press Syndicate)—Although approximately 500 colored veterans from every section of the United States attended the annual American Legion Convention, which opened on Sept. 30, none of them were placed on any of the important committees, such as the resolutions and Americanism committees.

The veterans pushed for consideration of the equal voting privileges, but there was little indication that they would be successful in getting the measure to the floor.

World War II Vets Fight

Considerable interest was given the struggle of the World War II vets to obtain, what they considered, their rightful place on the national committees which, heretofore, have been monopolized by the doughboys of World War I.

Caucuses were meeting everywhere as various groups of Legionaires were attempting to draw up resolutions and gain support for numerous proposals.

Prominent individuals who addressed the early sessions included retiring Commander John Stelle, keynoter; FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover, Gov. Earl Warren, and Admiral Chester Nimitz.

Negro Legion Meets Tonight

Officers Will Be Installed at Rite

Hanniton Watts post of the American Legion, Negro, will meet in the Elks home at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Commander Harry L. Whitaker said Monday.

Officers of the post who were elected recently will be installed by T. R. Mann, vice commander of the Frank Marston post.

In addition to Whitaker as commander, officers are:

Henry Vincent Dubose, vice commander; Jewell George Davis, vice commander, Clifford McQueen, adjutant; Charlie L. Taite, chaplain; Garlon A. Davis, historian; Alvin L. Leonard, sergeant at arms; Elbert J. Walker, service officer; and Dr. E. S. Cobb ,finance officer.

Negro Legion Post Here Is Chartered

At ceremonies held at the First Baptist church here [Negro] the charter for the first Negro American Legion post was presented The presentation was made by E D. Lindsay, Sandersville, Sixth District commander of the Legion.

The new post will be known as the Vining-Goodman post.

FORMATION OF NEGRO LEGION IS APPROVED

ISLAND LEGIONNAIRES CONCUR WITH POST 9 TO SPONSOR COLORED POST

The way was cleared for the establishment of a colored American Legion post in Glynn county last night when Guale Post No. 166 of St. Simons Island, at its regular meeting at the Sea Island Casino, approved such a move. Before such a post can be established, every other post in the county must give its approval, and Brunswick post No. 9 has already voted in favor of a colored post.

In acting on the organization of a colored post, the island legion concurred with the action taken by Post 9, Brunswick, to assist in the sponsoring of the new post. The colored post will probably be administered under a separate state district which will include all Georgia posts for negroes, which will have a colored district commander, and be administered directly under the state department.

Several committees were named at last night's meeting to begin plans for some of the major objectives of the post for the coming year, including the acquisition of a permanent American Legion home on St. Simons.

The need for adequate street lighting on the island was also discussed, and a committee appointed to study ways and means of obtaining the street lights. It was pointed out at the meeting that the lights are badly needed in the business section of the island near the pier and at other dangerous street intersections, especially in view of the growth of the island community and the increased number of vacation visitors. Some of the legionnaires expressed the belief that street lighting is as much an essential to the safety and convenience of island residents and visitors as sewerage and other improvements.

A discussion was also held of tentative plans for sponsoring monthly carnivals, dances, or similar public enterainments for the island residents in addition to the annual Armistice Day celebration which will be staged by the legion.

Legion Creates Negro District

State Comdr. H. Frost Bailey of the American Legion yesterday appointed Dr. J. T. Davis, Miami Negro physician, interim commander of new all-Negro American Legion District 11 to serve until the State convention at Miami this Fall.

Bailey made the appointment yesterday at the opening session of the Legion's District 11, created by the American Legion to absorb the former Colored Veterans of World Wars organization.

Two other Negro leaders, Dr. J. E. Bush of Jacksonville and Dr. W. Baker, Orlando, were named interim committeemen to serve with Dr. Davis.

Installation of Negro veterans in the new American Legion District highlighted the three-day, 11th annual convention of Colored Veterans of World Wars, which opened here Monday.

A parade down Orange Ave., led by State American Legion officials and numbering about 1,500, topped off the convention program. A squadron of 300 Negro troops from Orlando AAB, about 500 Negro Legionnaires and other Negro organizations participated in the parade.

Dr. C. L. Eccleston, one of the city's better known Negro leaders, announced the following officers of Mac-Nix Post 184, Orlando's District 11 Post:

J. H. O'Neal, post commander; Frank Williams, first vice-commander; J. H. Ellis, second vice-president; Hollis Johnson, sergeant-at-arms; H. C. Maultsby, finance officer; C. B. Mosely, judge-advocate, and the Rev. W. B. Bozeman, chaplain.

The Right to Separate

The News and Courier Charleston, S.C.

A colored man who says he represents a "council of colored veterans" reports that he and 30 other colored veterans who were picketing the American Legionnaires in session in San Francisco were "roughly handled" by Legionnaires. We do not doubt it. The Legionnaires were holding a peaceful session. The negroes were trying to "crash" the meetings of white Legionnaires. They wished to "get in with the white folks". If, when colored veterans hold meetings, white veterans picket them and shall be "roughly handled" by them, the white men will have lame excuse or reason if they complain. The right of white people and of colored people to meet separately and to exclude one another from their meetings is not to be disputed. If a white man employ a colored veteran to drive his car, he is not thereby obligated to give the driver a seat at his dinner table. Mon. 10-7-46

MIAMI DOCTOR TO HEAD NEGRO LEGION DISTRICT

ORLANDO, Aug. 8.—(AP)—Dr. J. T. Davis, Miami Negro physician, has been named by State Commander H. Frost Bailey to head the Florida Department's new District 11 until a state convention is held at Miami this Fall.

The appointment was made at the opening business session of the new district, created by the Legion at its West Palm Beach convention to include all Negro legion posts in Florida.

Mississippi gets first Negro Legion post

Tribune Los Angeles Daily

GREENWOOD, Miss. — Mississippi got its first Negro American Legion post last week when Greenwood post here adopted a petition submitted by 165 Negro veterans seeking to organize a post. Leonard Scrugg, a member of the Greenwood post, urged approval of the petition as "one of the ways to do away with some of the stink that Bilbo has stirred up." Sat. 9-7-46

KINSTON HONORS NEGRO VETERANS

Homecoming Day Celebration for Lenoir County Vets Draws Large Crowd

Kinston, July 4.—Although handicapped by an all-day rain, the homecoming day celebration for Negro war veterans, sponsored by the Harrison Croom Post of the American Legion, went nearly according to schedule today. The rain did not visibly dampen enthusiasm with which homefolks welcomed the veterans, although some minor changes in the program of events was dictated.

Approximately 1,000 visitors flocked here for the program.

A memorial service to a capacity-filled courthouse began the day's events at 2 p. m. when the names of 24 war dead were read by George B. Lane, service officer of the post, following a tribute by J. F. Albritton, Jr. McKinley Battle, post commander, introduced the principal speaker, the Rev. Oscar E. Holder, a former lieutenant-colonel in the Army Chaplain Corps and

Episcopal clergyman who is now chaplain of the New York State branch of United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

"The Unfinished Job" and emphasized that while the Negro veterans had proven themselves in war it remained for them to put down malicious evil and bo and Representative Rankin of Mississippi, whom he said were not representative of the South and America and would halt progress.

The parade which followed the ceremony was led by the 555th Parachute Battalion, commanded by Capt. James H. Porter, with music by the Montford Point Marine band.

Approximately 250 Negro veterans marched briskly in the line in the heaviest of the rain to the Adkin High School gymnasium where a barbecue dinner was served.

California Bound

Alabama Legionnaires Will Lead Parade At Convention For Sixth Consecutive Time

The News BY FRED TAYLOR Birmingham, Ala.

Wed. 9-11-46

Alabama Legionnaires are going to put on a colorful show at the San Francisco convention.

The state really will be on parade. In fact, it will lead the American Legion parade, many miles long, through 'Frisco when the convention opens there Sept. 30.

Alabama Legionnaires have led the last five national convention parades, having been accorded this honor as they will again, not for alphabetical reasons, but because each year they have attained the largest percentage of membership increase of any state.

TAYLOR

Emblazoned in large red, white and blue illuminated letters on the special train that will pull out of the L. & N. Station at 8 a.m. Sept. 26, with some 200 Legionnaires aboard, will be:

"American Legion Special to San Francisco—Alabama on Parade."

* * *

FOLSOM WILL LEAD—Alabama's tree-top-tall Gov.-Nominate Jim Folsom, member of the Cullman Legion post, will lead the line of march. And marching with him at the head of the parade will be Albert Stapp, immediate past state Legion commander, who is chairman of Alabama's delegation.

The Alabama contingent leading the long line of march will feature various dazzling units, among which will be Birmingham's drum and bugle corps, gaily attired in new crimson and white uniforms and led by Miss Marie Butler, All-America drum majorette and University of Alabama cheerleader, and Jerry Long, Woodlawn High School drum majorette.

Carl A. Wiegand, Birmingham, heads the bugle corps committee.

* * *

FLAG PAGEANT—Probably the most colorful feature of the Alabama parade section, and one that will be in the forefront of the line of march, will be the pageant of flags.

Color-bearers will swing through 'Frisco holding aloft the seven flags which have flown over Alabama throughout its history. Beginning with Old Glory, there will be the Spanish, French, English Colonial, Republic of Alabama, Confederacy and Francis Scott Key flags. Incidentally, the latter had 15 stars and 15 bars.

The pageant also will include flags of all Allied nations in World War II. Greek citizens of Birmingham presented them to the Legion.

Each of the color-bearers will be garbed in costumes symbolic of the nation and the time in history each represents. Flag-bearers will be state Legion area commanders.

Lee Rothermel, Birmingham, and Hosmer Scott, Jasper, prepared this pageant feature.

* * *

FLOATS—Former Gov. Frank Dixon, a former state commander and chairman of the float committee, has had five floats designed and constructed in San Francisco to add still more color to Alabama's lead-off parade section.

Drawings for these floats were made here and sent on to the coast city so the gaily bedecked vehicles will be ready to roll when the Alabamians arrive.

These floats will exemplify the state and its industrial and agricultural development, heavy industry, textiles and rubber, and Alabama cities, including Mobile and Gadsden.

* * *

BROCHURE—The Legionnaires not only will place Alabama on parade in San Francisco. They are preparing on elaborate, four-color, illustrated 32-page brochure to tell San Francisco and the world what this state has to offer. Thousands of copies will be distributed at the convention.

This engaging booklet attractively displays and tells briefly and interestingly about Alabama, its industry and agriculture, its scenic wonderlands, huge power dams, lakes and rivers, fishing and hunting paradises, shipping, inland waterways and a myriad of other things.

It contains pictures of Gov. Chauncey Sparks, Gov.-Nominate Folsom, Ottis L. Cooper, Red Level, new state Legion commander; Mrs. W. W. Andrews, Jackson, Legion auxiliary president; Joe Louis, Harry Gilmer, Vaughn Mancha and other notables.

* * *

ACCOLADE—A special page is given to the five state Legion commanders who headed the state department each of the five years it attained the largest percentage of membership increase.

The booklet contains their pictures and praise of their achievements. They are Irvin Lehman, Langdale; James S. Saliba, Florence; John T. Batten, Birmingham; Clarence C. Horton, Courtland, and George L. Cleere, Montgomery, now the state's adjutant general.

NEGROES—The brochure not only carries a picture of Joe Louis, an Alabamian, but has a special page devoted to accomplishments of Negroes in this state.

Included are photographs of Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute, and Dr. George Washington Carver, great scientist developed at that school.

* * *

STARS AND BOLL WEEVIL—Still another page is devoted to Alabama movie stars, with pictures of Gail Patrick, Lois Wilson, Bebe Anderson and others.

And in still another section is pictured the monument to the boll weevil at Enterprise, center of Alabama's peanut-growing Wiregrass. This monument, only one ever erected to a pest, is a constant reminder to farmers of the disguised blessing of the boll weevil that started them to growing a lot more peanuts and a lot less cotton.

* * *

AUTHORS—Authors of the brochure are Legionnaires Guy A. Matlock, Birmingham, and William I. Truby, Montgomery, both former newspaper men, working under direction of Saliba, chairman of the public relations and brochure committee.

Saliba and Matlock left today as advance agents and will make preparations for entertainment of the Legion contingent when the special train makes stops at St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City, Ogden and Reno.

They also are arranging for special sight-seeing trips for the Alabamians when they return via Los Angeles and El Paso, with a trip across the border into Juarez included.

Scotlandville Receives 1st La. American Legion Post

The Weekly New Orleans, La.

Climaxing a drive of several months the first charter of a colored post of the American Legion in Louisiana was granted to Barrett-Harrison Post No. 502, Scotlandville, Sept. 4. The State Departmental Commander presented the temporary charter under which the post will operate until the permanent charter is received from national headquarters.

Under American Legion regulations a post must first receive its charter from the local organization. It is then automatically okayed by the national body.

For some time veterans in New Orleans have been trying to set up a post of the Union Labor Legionnaires, a division of the American Legion composed of members of labor unions. Tiny Scotlandville beat them to the gun, however, in making Louisiana the third southern state to grant a charter to a colored post in recent weeks. Mississippi and Florida have already established posts.

During the meeting at which the charter was granted officers for the newly established post were elected and charged with their duties by state officers. Those elected were: N. L. Lewis, commander; Johnnie Jones, vice commander; G. B. Robinson, second commander; Acie Belton, third commander; Buffington Cox, temporary chaplain; Louis B. Scott, sergeant-at-arms; T. J. Wilcox, historian; G. E. Jones and Feltus B. Lee, color bearers; W. H. Brazier and Willie Parker, service officers.

Sat. 9-14-46

Any veteran of World War I and II, living in East Baton Rouge Parish north of Monte Sano, is invited to join. Meetings are held every first and third Wednesday in Scott's Bluff Auditorium at 7:30 p. m.

Legion Denies Charters To Interracial Posts

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 9-21-46

By MAJOR ROBINSON
(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK—Keeping in step with the national attitude of top American Legion officials who disapprove chapters composed of white and colored veterans of World War II the New York State Department of the Legion announced Tuesday that it had refused permanent charters to two "mixed" Manhattan chapters.

Pinning the "Red label" on the Duncan-Paris Post and the New York Collegiate Post, Maurice Stember, State Department adjutant, said the executive committee had denied applications for permanent charters because their membership included a number of Communists or Communist sympathizers. Both outfits were started earlier this year by white veterans who had come out of the war imbued with "the democratic way of life." Membership includes Marion Hargrove, author of the best-seller "See Here Pvt. Hargrove"; Milliard Lampell, who has lectured on tolerance, and former members of Yank, Stars and Stripes and other army publications.

Red Label Camouflage

Two weeks ago the Franklin D. Roosevelt Post in Washington, D.C., was denied a charter on the grounds of "un-American principles." Herman Lieberman, chairman of the membership committee of the Post, labeled the accusation as a camouflage and charged the Legion with advocating racial discrimination.

"The FDR Post was denied a charter by the District Department," he said, "simply because it is a veterans organization in the FDR tradition which accepts both Negro and white veterans as members. That is the only issue, the right of vets to join an American Legion Post, regardless of race or color."

Walter Bernstein, Dunn-Paris official, when contacted by the Defender, stated that as yet they have received no word from State Department officials and that the "Red" charges levelled at them by Stember in the daily press was the first time that they knew they had been denied a charter. Vehemently denying the charges he said that it was his opinion that one of the factors involved in the refusal was the white and colored charter of their organization.

The Collegiate Post was organized at Columbia University and like the Duncan chapter has shown no discrimination in its membership ranks. One of the top Duncan-Paris Negro members is Charles Carpenter, former manager of Earl Hines band, song writer, a member of the post's executive committee.

Defender

Want Jim Crow Posts

Observers of the Veterans scene say that the trend in refusing charters to mixed chapters on the grounds of "un-American principles" is due to Legion officials wanting Negroes in their organization, but only as members of the Jim Crow posts. In order to avoid driving them into such progressive veteran organizations as the American Veterans Committee, whose constitution bars discrimination of any kind, they pin a "Communist" label on any mixed units.

Chicago, Ill.

To Get Charter

Before World War II all Negro Legionnaires belonged to their own segregated locals throughout the country. However, since the end of the war groups of white and colored veterans have agreed to join the Legion and other groups but on a non-prejudice basis.

Bernstein said that the membership intends fighting their charter rejection "through to the bitter end." If necessary, he added, they will be officially designated Post No. 74, has given its stamp of approval to the formation of the as Post 501.

Joyner said that the plan to Negro post, Joyner said.

Joyner said that an effort would aid in the organization of a Negro post in Macon was taken after be made to have all Negro vetLegion such a project won the approval erans interested in joining the of Negroes of the Legion Departmental con- Legion attend the charter meetharter in Ma- vention decreed, however, that ding to Char- there should be but one Negro der of the post in any county and that the Post of the Ne- formation should be sponsored by sored the a white post and have the ap- proval of any other posts in the gro post county.

The other Legion Post here, Commander of the Boston and the will be Frank D.

Sat. 9-21-46

Legion Post For Negroes

The first American Legion post composed solely of Negroes will be given its charter August 25, according to Joyner, commander of Joseph N. Neel Jr., Post Legion, which sponsored the Negro post.

Legion Posts for Negroes Indorsed by Valdosta Post

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.
Thurs 4-11-46

The American Legion Post in Valdosta, meeting Tuesday night, unanimously indorsed a resolution which would provide for the establishment of Negro Legion Posts in Georgia under the sponsorship of white posts.

Legion Posts in Atlanta have not as yet taken action on this resolution, which was prepared by the Georgia Department Executive Committee of the American Legion. Herbert Moon, Department Commander, plans to introduce the resolution for consideration at the annual State Legion meeting in Savannah in July.

A committee studying the question of Negro Posts has recommended a plan—known as the Tennessee plan—by which Negroes, wanting to organize Legion posts, can apply for a charter. White posts in the community will approve the charter and aid in the establishment and operation of the posts.

No Negro posts can be set up unless the projected plan is approved at the State meeting this summer, it was pointed out, but individual posts may go on record as favoring or opposing the resolution.

Thurs 4-11-46

The subject of establishing Negro posts has been under discussion by Atlanta posts for some time, Marvin Medlock, Commander of Post No. 1, said yesterday. However, he added that his Post had not taken a vote or the matter, and he declined to say whether or not he would favor the proposal.

Legion Charter Denied K.C. Vets

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill
Sat 2-23-46

Join Existing Post, Negro Group Told

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Negro veterans of World War II raised a storm of protest here this week against the refusal of the American Legion to grant them a charter for a Legion Post.

Although the group was advised by Chairman William Welch of the City Central executive committee that there were "too many Legion Posts springing up in Kansas City," and that "all colored vets should join the one Negro post of World War I vets," the group filed for a charter.

They were notified shortly after by Matty Beuder, chairman of the City Central Membership Committee, that nothing would be done about the application because the group of vets was reportedly associated with a gambling racket.

Pressure Tactics Used

A spokesman for the World War II vets told the Defender that the group has been confronted with threats of pressure, petty bribery and mud-slinging, in the effort to force them to join the single Negro War I Post.

Beuder told the group in a letter, "It was the recommendation of the membership committee that the colored boys of World War II could, or should, join with Wayne Miner Post, making one big colored post."

Approximately 7500 Negro men were inducted into the armed forces from the area, the spokesman stated. When the group of veterans filed for a Legion charter, they were, all told, 38 over the required quota, and had fulfilled all other requirements for a charter.

There are thre white World War II Legion Posts in the city, 29 white World War I posts, and one Negro post composed of World War I vets.

The young Negro vets notified National Commander John Stelle of their situation, but have received no reply.

American Legion to Lift Dixie Ban

Baltimore Md.
Afro American

AUGUSTA, Ga. (ANP) — The American Legion District Division, embracing North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama, will lift its ban against non-white veterans on June 1, District Commander Louis D. Oliveros revealed on Mar. 29.

The announcement was made during a meeting of ex-soldiers in the Campbell Street YMCA here. The veterans he addressed had sought affiliation with the legion since they were organized last fall.

Sat 4-13-46

The decision to end the age-old ban, which he revealed was reached during a divisional meeting in Atlanta early in March, will provide for the creation of an 11th division covering the involved States.

Although it will have its own commander and separate posts, he emphasized, the division will have representation on all committees, including the executive committee of the various State departments.

Moreover, he declared, delegates of the 11th division would attend all conventions, as equal though separate parts of the whole.

Sat 4-13-46

Pointing out that North Carolina already has set up several separate posts, he admitted that Alabama is balking against the plan but asserted that added pressure would remove its objection.

South Carolina Opposition

In South Carolina, however, a headquarters spokesman informed the Lighthouse and Informer, ANP affiliate at Columbia, that it has no intention of complying with the agreement.

Pointing out that if male veterans had their own posts, women would want to become affiliated, he implied that white women are reluctant to admit the presence of others at conventions and on functioning committees.

Meanwhile, organizations and leaders are developing plans for an organized protest against the South Carolina attitude.

Richmond Times Dispatch

Negroes and the Legion

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

My congratulations to Florence W. D. Crane, former WAC officer, for her withdrawal from the Elizabeth Seay Post 100, of the American Legion, due to their sponsoring and promoting segregation of the races by not admitting a Negro Wac.

It seems that equality was the practice while the bombs were falling, but now that the war is supposedly won this equality is to be dropped. The veterans are joining the various American Legion posts, that proclaim such ideals as "upholding the American Constitution . . . combating the autocracy of the classes and the masses . . . safeguarding justice, freedom and democracy," and yet, in the very first instance to arise in which justice and democracy might have been applied, it is tossed out of the window. Their proclamations are shown to be a perfect farce. A Wac is turned away from the meeting because of the color of her skin, though that did not seem to enter in when her services were needed to help win the war.

Wed. 3-20-46

It is all rather ridiculous, is it not? CONWAY RODGERS.

Richmond.

Segregation in the Legion

Richmond Times Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I attended a meeting of the Elizabeth Seay Post No. 100 of the American Legion about 10 days after my release from active service. The meeting was most inspiring. Since there were many prospective members present, the ideals and purposes of the organization were explained very fully. Such projects as community service, child welfare work, disaster relief, and numerous other philanthropies readily appealed to us. Needless to say, I became a Legionnaire.

Richmond, Va.

Today I am a disillusioned veteran. I have just sent in my formal resignation to the Elizabeth Seay Post. Attendance at my second meeting of the post last evening, at which meeting a Negro veteran was, turned away, is the reason for my withdrawal. As soon as the call for new business was made, I asked if this woman had left our group voluntarily. An assistant adjutant from the State Department of the American Legion (a gentleman who has been kindly assisting the women veterans' post in getting organized and the person who so capably presented the aims of the American Legion at our last meeting) stated that the colored servicewomen can join one of the colored men's posts, and at such time when there are enough colored women veterans they can form their own post, or words to that effect. I then mentioned the preamble to the constitution of the American Legion which we had just recited in unison and suggested the possibility of our being hypocrites by saying we believed one thing and actually doing the reverse, thinking mainly of the phrases reading: "For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; . . . to foster and perpetuate a 100 per cent Americanism; . . . to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; . . . to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy." His answer was to the effect that the Virginia State laws called for such segregation in hotels just as in transportation, etc. I suggested the possibility of our meeting somewhere else to defy these "Jim Crow" laws.

The adjutant also brought out during our discussion that he had been born and raised here and that he knew colored people. Well, I wasn't born here but I have lived here since I was three years old and have had all my schooling in Richmond; and, even though there were Negroes working in my home during all that time, I'll confess that I never actually knew a Negro until I spent 40 months in the service where equality was the practice—not just theory. Imagine my amazement when I found any number of them who were by far my superiors. A little reading and study has convinced me that the tremendous number of backward Negroes is no more than the result of our suppression of them.

Sat. 3-16-46

What chance do we have for world peace and the success of an organization such as the UNO when a group so great and strong as the American Legion sponsors segregation, a practice neither Christian nor democratic?

FLORENCE W. D. CRANE.
A former WAC officer.
Richmond. Sat. 3-16-46

Legion To Lift Race Ban

(From the Christian Advocate)

One of the most fantastic things about both of the World Wars has been the attitude of the American Legion toward Negro veterans. In both wars the nation drafted Negroes for service, sent them to the front where they fought, suffered, were wounded, and died like all men in all wars have ever done. When the soldiers came home and began an organization of veterans of the war they drew up a constitution which allowed some states to refuse to recognize the Negro veteran.

After the first war Negro veterans in many southern states fought vainly for the privilege of becoming members of the American Legion, even on a Jim Crow basis. After the second war the fight has been renewed. Treatment during the war and since the war has burned into the mind of the Negro soldier the idea that the nation does not mind demanding his sweat and blood when the fighting is on, but that neither then nor later will his fellow soldiers recognize them as a fellow soldier.

Negro Post Holds Milton Meeting

Pensacola, Fla.
Times

MILTON—(Special)—First meeting of the Moton-Williams Post of the American Legion, composed of Negro veterans in the Milton area, was held Friday night.

The post was recently granted a charter by the Florida department of the national American Legion organization.

9-22-46-Sun.

can Legion in the final session of the two-day 26th Annual State Convention here yesterday.

The organization has also voted to permit Negro veterans to form Negro American Legion posts in the state.

Orlando, Fla. Morning Sentinel

Legion Plans State Negro Post Here

H. Frost Bailey, state American Legion commander, and other state officials of the veterans group met here at the Angebilt hotel yesterday to work out details of organizing a state negro American Legion here next month.

Bailey said plans are set for the Colored Veterans of World War I to become a part of the American Legion at a convention here Aug. 6-9.

Negro American Legion posts will form the state organization's District 11.

Chauncey Hudson, Valdosta, To Head State's Negro Legion Posts

Local Negro Leader Also Commands Newly-Formed Post Here; Installation of Officers To Be Held Sunday Afternoon, to Be Conducted By John Williams, Commander of State Department of Legion.

Valdosta Times 9-19-46

Chauncey Hudson, Valdosta Negro leader, has been appointed Commander of the newly-organized Negro American Legion Posts in Georgia, it was announced by John R. Williams, Commander of the State Department of the Legion.

Hudson, a Tuskegee graduate and holder of the Bachelor of Science in Commerce degree which he earned at Howard University, Washington, D. C., has been named Commander of the 11th District of the Legion, which actually includes all Negro Posts in the state.

He is State President of the Georgia Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Hudson has been elected Commander of the local Negro Post, which will be organized officially on Sunday afternoon, September 22.

In addition to his other degrees, Hudson earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the New York University, New York City.

He is now actively engaged in the mercantile and real estate business here which was established in 1905 by his father, the late Thomas Hudson.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees, Morris Brown College, Atlanta. In addition, he served as a member of the Lowndes County Selective Advisory Board, was co-chairman of the Negro Division of the Lowndes county Defense Council, was a member of the Negro USO Council, and has served four terms as chairman of the Negro Division of the Red Cross and Community Chest drives.

He has served as Commander of the Howard Forrest Post since it was organized in 1940. The Howard Forrest Post consisted of veterans of World War 1, and was named in honor of Howard Forrest, a local soldier who gave his life in World War 1. This Post will become Post 503 in the American Legion Department of Georgia.

A veteran of World War 1, Hudson served 10 months overseas. He was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Reserve Officers Corps.

Hudson has taken an active part in every worthwhile community undertaking and is recognized as an outstanding leader among his race.

Leaion. Rotary to Discuss Swimming Pool for Negroes

CLEARWATER—With the American Legion unanimously endorsing a swimming pool for Negroes in Clearwater, a committee from the Legion will confer with the Rotary club next week to study the question. It has been reported that this will be one of the major projects of the Rotary.

John Rowe, acting adjutant of the Legion brought the matter before the post Thursday night. He said that so far as he knew the only chance Negro boys had for swimming was to dive into Stevensons creek at Clearwater Country club to get lost golf balls.

Negroes now have no place to swim either in salt or fresh water.

Hal VanDiver, new liaison officer between the white and Negro Legion posts, will act on the swimming pool committee.

LEGION APPROVES NEGRO POST HERE

Local Post to Ascertain Extent to Which Lending Institutions In Valdosta Are Making Veterans Loans

The Valdosta American Legion Post voted last night to authorize the organization in this city of a Negro Post, which will be under the supervision of the white Post.

It was announced by Commander Tommie Giddens, who presided at the meeting, that Chauncey Hudson, well known and respected Negro citizen, would be the first Commander of this new Post, which is expected to be formed in the very near future. The Valdosta Post is leading the way in this movement to organize Negro Posts, which was authorized at the recent state convention of the Legion in Savannah.

It was announced by Commander Giddens that all churches in the county have been asked by the Legion Post to hold appropriate observances at their prayer meetings (tonight) to commemorate the end of the war, one year ago today.

The Post also decided to rent a lot on West Magnolia street, to be used for shows sponsored by the Post.

Nelse Holcombe, who formerly commanded the National Guard here, and who is now organizing the reactivated National Guard in this city, spoke briefly about the problems fa in this organization work, and called for the cooperation of the Legion. A committee was appointed to work with and to assist Mr. Holcombe in forming the local Guard Company.

At the suggestion of Earl Kelly, the Post decided to name a committee to "ascertain the extent to which each of the two banks and the First Federal Savings and Loan Association have entered into the business of making veterans loans," and to "advise each of the said institutions of the extreme interest that this Post of the American Legion has in this matter."

It was decided too, to "give appropriate publicity to the findings of this committee."

In recognition of the services of Howell Wilkinson to the Legion, the Post voted unanimously to pay his expenses to the Legion Convention in Miami in 1947. Mr. Wilkinson has served as head of the sponsorship committee for a number of years, and has turned over to the Post many thousands of dollars in profits from these sponsored events. The motion to pay his expenses to the convention was made in his absence and without his knowledge.

PLANS APPROVED BY NEGRO LEGION

Raleigh N.C. Observer 9-23-46

State Leaders Adopt Objectives for Organization During Coming Year

The Negro division of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion, in executive session Saturday at the Bloodworth Street Branch of Raleigh YMCA endorsed the following recommendations presented by Charles G. Irving, State vice-commander:

1. The organization and direction of a Boys' State for Negro Boys.

2. A State-wide oratorical contest on the Constitution of the United States of America.

3. The formation of a legislative committee to confer with other legislative committees and the North Carolina Department of Public Welfare in an effort to secure funds at the next session of the North Carolina Legislature for the purpose of erecting a school for feeble-minded Negroes and the expansion of facilities at the Caswell Training School at Kinston for white children.

4. The appointment of a committee to work with the North Carolina Inter-racial Commission in an effort to secure Negro personnel in the field work of the North Carolina Veteran Commission and the United States Veterans Administration.

Other Considerations.

M. Hugh Thompson, Durham attorney, recommended to the committee the educational program which the Department last week presented to white Legionnaires and which he quoted Commander York as saying would be available to Negroes. The committee accepted the recommendation and directed the vice-commander to work out details.

Irving reported that the Negroes had been given ample representation on the scholarship award committee and that this year an award had been made to a Negro. The award was made to Thelm L. Cumbo of the Charles T. Norwood Post 157, Raleigh and was for $250. The winner is a junior at the North Carolina College for Negroes at Durham.

The committee allocated $4,000 which the Department had made available for the expense of the Division for the year and approved the five appointments which the vice-commander made in the newly organized districts.

The appointments were: 1st District, Golden A. Frink, Edenton; 2nd District, R. F. Lee, Wilmington; 3rd District, B. F. Ferguson, Fayetteville; 4th District, H. M. Kirkpatrick, High Point, and 5th District, T. C. Patterson, Lenoir.

J. S. Bowser of Charlotte presided at Saturday's meeting and Jerry Williamson of Durham acted as secretary. The executive committee is composed of 11 members and the five district commanders.

Venson Becomes First Negro To Serve On American Legion Convention Committee In '46

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 8-13-46

MEMPHIS, Tenn.— (SNS) For the first time in the history of the Tennessee Department of the American Legion a Negro has been appointed to serve as member of a Convention Committee.

The appointee is Dr. R. Q. Venson, widely known civic worker, Doctor Venson, a dentist here for many years, has been appointed a member of the Legion's Rehabilitation Committee, to serve during the current convention now in session at Knoxville, Tenn. Convention dates are August 10, 11, 12.

A delegation of some fifty Negro Memphians left the city Saturday night to attend the Knoxville convention. They went as representatives of the large Memphis Post No. 27, named in honor of Autress Russell, Negro hero of World War 1.

Doctor Venson, who has served three terms as a member of the Executive Committee, pointed out the delegation consists of many veterans of World War II. Among them are former Pfc. of the Army. Both are enthusiastic members of the Austress Russell Post.

He indicated his determination to bring up matters of concern to Negro veterans before the Tennessee Department of the American Legion at the current convention. In his capacity as Vice District Commander for the West Tennessee Division. He is expected to be particularly interested in such matters as

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 08

62c 1946 American Legion (Women)

Women Vets of Late War Form Legion Post

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO — The 145th all-women's American Legion Post was chartered here, recently, with 15 charter members, all of whom are World War II service women. It was designated as the Pallas Athene Post 1103.

Sat.

The chartering of the post raises the number of all World War II Legion Posts to 84, the previous 83 being white groups.

Grace Prettyman has been named post commander. 11-30-46

Negro woman's American Legion post is chartered

Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.

CHICAGO—First woman's colored American Legion post has been chartered here. Called the Pallas Athene Post 1103, it is composed of Negro World War II servicewomen. Sat. 12-14

62c 1946 Veterans

Daily World Being Inconsistent Atlanta, Ga.

For many months this newspaper had looked with great pride and hope on the Veterans Civic Organization, headquarters at Charleston, which has done more in less than two years for the people in lower South Carolina than all the other organizations put together.

The VCO, through real or threatened, boycotts, forced the return of Riverside Beach to Negro rentees, the shut down of a "colored folks night" show staged contrary to rules on Harmon Field. It gained employment for a young woman at a dry cleaning pick station, several investigations into matters of interest to Negroes. It's latest venture was to attack the county hall, erected at $400,000 of public funds in upper King street but which held its doors closed to Negroes. A change at the county hall is to be made very soon.

Behind all of these programs was fiery, ambitious and likable Albert N. Brooks who kept up his homefront battle for decency through the columns of The News and Courier and this newspaper while doing a stretch in the Army. Albert Brooks was going too well, the jealous among him held. Brooks, the report is, got tired of having this person and that one even some of the money-mad church groups who found Riverside Beach blocked, opposed to his commonsense program for all his people. So when election time came around he refused to head the fine organization he struggled and founded. Wed. 12-11-46

What is the future of the VCO? The answer now is but conjecture. But the tipoff well might be in what happened on the same Harmon Field the VCO had professed interest in. VCO, under Brooks, fought against "colored folks nights" on Harmon Field. The Field was given for recreational purposes. But VCO, without Brooks, became a partner to a "colored fair" on Harmon Field, promoted by a Negro who brought in attractions and shows owned by white men.

We have got to be consistent in our campaigns. The clean thinking citizen will not maintain pride and faith in an organzation which today declares for one thing and on tomorrow turns tail and fools the people.

62c 1946

AVC Proves to Be Most Liberal Vet Organization

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 10-19-46

By JAMES L. HICKS
NNPA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON

Three months after V-J-Day new veteran organizations were springing up all over the country, and today they are dying out just as fast as they were organized with only the strong remaining.

The American Legion is probably the strongest, but the American Veterans Committee is the most liberal.

The Legion recently broke a precedent and permitted several jim-crow chapters to be organized in the south, and even more recently denied a charter to an interracial group of veterans in the District of Columbia.

Veterans of Foreign Wars doesn't mention race or color in its constitution, but leaves membership to discretion of State commanders who may approve or reject minority organizations. It took an indefinite stand on FEPC, anti-poll tax and transfer of USES to States.

AVC Most Liberal

Of all of the veterans groups, the American Veterans Committee is the most liberal. Its constitution forbids jim crow chapters and its national planning committee is mixed. While Bilbo has sworn never to let it get a Congressional charter, it is recognized by the Veterans Administration.

It goes all out for minimum wages, Wagner-Murray-Dingell social security bill, opposed Case anti-strike bill, favors FEPC, fought return of USES to States, support: Wagner - Ellender - Taft housing bill and fights for anti-poll tax legislation.

The American Veterans of World War II (Amvets) is non-committal on issues like poll tax, FEPC, minimum wage law and housing bill. It wins lots of friends by walking the middle of the road and allows it chapters to cater to James Crow.

Virgin Island Vets Start First AVC Chapter

Sat. 11-2-46

ST. THOMAS, Virgin Islands — Initiating a campaign of community improvement, the American Veterans' Committee has become the leading veterans' group in the Virgin Islands, it was revealed here this week.

The four-month-old group started with a membership of 37 but is now approaching 100, chiefly through its campaign for a greater participation of veterans in Island government and its promotion of cultural programs.

There are no full time AVC employees here; however, after-hours activities of the vet membership has given it the prestige as one of the most potent pressure force throughout the Virgin Islands. The chapter recently persuaded St. Thomas' two newspapers to give them a weekly column where the group has publicized and explained the terminal leave plan and fought discrimination against veterans.

The Defender

The immediate plans of the chapter call for fostering legislation to include loans to veterans better housing, greater autonomy in government, and full employment promotion.

NEW GROUP FOR WORLD WAR 1 AND 2 VETS FORMED IN ILL.

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO (ANP)—The American Veterans Alliance, an organization composed of veterans of World Wars I and II, has been recently organized here.

Daily World

Assistant To Hershey Addresses Vets' Group

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 10-20-46

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Lack of an adequate educational system for all citizens, regardless of race or color, cost this country the equivalent of fifteen additional fighting divisions for the defense of democracy during the war, Colonel Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to General Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service System, told the American Veterans Committee last Tuesday.

This casualty list resulting from race discrimination in education for a long while exceeded the war casualties of American forces, said Colonel Johnson in a guest column appearing in the AVC Bulletin, official organ of the American Veterans Committee. He wrote:

"The existence of a more adequate system of education for all citizens regardless of race or color in the decade before the war would have resulted in our armed forces having the equivalent of more than 15 additional fighting divisions for the defense of democracy. This casualty list, if you can call it that resulting from discrimination in education for a long while exceeded the casualties inflicted upon us by the armed forces of the enemy.

PAY IN BLOOD

"Not only were the armed forces denied the use of thousands of men because of their inability to meet reasonable intelligence standards, but many states paid in blood because of lack of educational opportunities existing for the citizens of other states, for we had to have an adequate supply of fighting men and it was necessary to get them from the communities in which they were available.

"The restrictions of the right of full and fair employment for all is one of the most dangerous indications of the fact that the master race ideology presists in the thinking of many people in our nation. Legislative action has been sought to guarantee the right of a job to all citizens and the American Veterans Committee would be carrying out its fundamental purpose if it helped to bring that fight to a successful conclusion. There must be no limitation on the right of a man to work that is based upon his race or the color of his skin or upon how he worships his God. Veterans of minority groups will want to throw their force behind an organization which can enter a fight like this unhindered by mental reservations.

Daily World

VETS CONCERNED

"And then there is a final citizenship right in which many minority veterans are concerned and that is the right to vote. It happens that today by device or intimidation hundreds of thousands of citizens, and among them hundreds of thousands of veterans, are denied the basic right of ballot because of the race to which they belong. AVC can challenge the good-will of all true Americans by putting its power behind every effort to eliminate undemocratic restrictions upon the essential citizenship right to use the ballot anywhere in our country.

Atlanta, Ga

"The AVC has a great future because it is founded upon essential human justice.

Sun. 10-20-46

Those men and women who have borne the burden of World War II can find within its ranks an opportunity to build a better world—and, indeed, the only kind of world which has a chance to survive—a world of peace."

Tennessee Vets Set For Home Front 'War' Duty

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 9-21-46

By NAT D. WILLIAMS

JACKSON, Tenn.—"Organized and militant action to win the war on the home front, now that we have returned from the battlefields of the foreign 'fronts'" was the dramatic keynote of the first state-wide convention of Tennessee Negro veterans, held here last week.

Sparked by their youthful leader, James F. Estes, of Jackson, a former Army lieutenant in World War II, more than 200 veterans, most of them having overseas experience and ranging in age from 19 to 25 years, gave rousing applause to such statements as "the time has come when we are at the crossroads over the lynching evil in this country," and "We thought we could come back to our homes and live like free men, in this greatest of all nations in the world, but we have come back to discrimination, segregation, humiliation, and intimidation."

The Tennessee Veterans set the following objectives: (1) Equal educational and economic opportunities; (2) A working realization of the GI Bill of Rights for all races, creeds, and colors; (3) Better living conditions for the veterans in Tennessee; (4) Preserving liberty, peace and security for all people; (5) Aiding in the general welfare of our country and maintaining friendly relations between all people regardless of races, creeds or colors; (6) Comradeship and brotherhood among all veterans; (7) Enlightening all veterans in the GI Bill of Rights and other federal and state enacted measures pertaining to the affairs and fruitful interest of veterans; (8) Improvement of the economic, social and cultural conditions of all people of the state.

Keynote speech was delivered by Britt Hector Durell, state organizer for the Tennessee Veterans' Association, Inc.

O. E. McKaine, field worker for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, spoke on "Why The Negro Should Not Accept Less Than Full Equality."

State Commander Estes is a Lane College graduate and prospective law school student. The Tennessee Veterans' Association, Inc., although started in March of this year, has ten posts.

Founders and leaders of the organization include: James F. Estes, commander; Charles O. McFadden, vice commander; Robert Jackson, marshal; Arthur Thomas, editor in chief; Robert J. Cole, sergeant-at-arms; James A. Collier Jr., adjutant; George Thacker, vice adjutant; Carl W. Savage, corresponding secretary; Ellsworth Anthony, treasurer; Robert E. Drain, chaplain; and Britt Hector Durell, state organizer.

Headquarters are at 403 South Church st., Jackson, Tenn.

UNAVA Reports More Southern Mixed Units Formed by Vets

Daily Worker New York, N. Y. Sat. 9-28-46

United Negro and Allied Veterans of America means just that, even in the deep South, national commander Kenneth C. Kennedy reported after a 31-day tour of the Southern states.

In Austin, Tex., 60 percent of the members of the newly formed UNAVA post are white veterans, mainly students of the University of Texas. Mixed units have also been formed in Birmingham and New Orleans.

"These mixed chapters," says the young Negro commander "are encouraging signs that progress is being made in the South and an eloquent reply to the proponents of Jimcrow in American life."

In Austin, Kennedy [illegible] inter-racial hearing at the state house on the question of Negro admittance to the University of Texas.

Speaking for UNAVA, he said Negro veterans do not want Jimcrow schools.

"Experience has taught Negroes that nothing that is separate is equal," he said.

Many white veterans attended mass meetings addressed by Kennedy in Galveston and Houston. In New Orleans he spoke to a large meeting of the Transport Workers Union, and before he left the city an interracial UNAVA post of

Amvets On Jimcrow Issue

LOUISVILLE — (ANP) — Jimcrow within the ranks of the American Veterans of World War II here brought about the resignation last week of Elmer L. Meyers as vice commander of the Daniel Boone Post.

The AMVET Post refused to admit Negroes to its meeting. Meyers disclosed, and Negroes have declined an offer to organize a

parate post for them. But John H. Ostertage, Daniel Boone Post commander, denied Meyers discrimination charge by stating that "segregation into separate posts is the choice of Negroes as well as whites."

Meanwhile, Seymour Bird, chairman of the American Veterans Committee, Louisville, chapter, reported Meyers had joined his organization that has about 20 Negro members. No racial trouble has been encountered, he said, by having a mixed veterans' group.

"Negroes fought beside us as Americans and they are entitled to sit with us," Bird declared. "We try to live up to our national charter, which prohibits discrimination because of race, creed or sex." Sun. 7-2-46

The American Veterans of World War II also have a no-discrimination clause in their national charter, which Meyers charged they violated by endorsing jim crow posts.

Vet Organizations Bid For Negro Memberships

The Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Hardly more than a year has passed since the end of World War II but the myriad veterans groups that took the field have dwindled down to only five major contestants that show promise of capturing the Negro ex-fighting man. Sat. 11-2-46

On the basis of appeal to minorities, the American Veterans Committee and the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America are the two groups expected to take an overwhelming lead in Negro memberships within the next five years. The following survey of leading veterans groups may offer an index to their future development:

Vets Back Labor

The American Veterans Committee ranks among the most progressive of vet groups. Its constitution forbids segregated chapters; has Negroes on its planning committee and is in the forefront fighting for progressive legislation directly supported by minorities and organized labor. Its publicized fight for interracial housing projects, its stand against restrictive covenants and the seating of Sen. Bilbo in the 80th Congress are among the many reasons why it is called "communistic" by conservative veterans.

Ranking with AVC on the progressive front, the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America is another interracial group with a tremendous appeal to Negroes.

Emphasis On Minorities

With its roots deep in the progressive labor movement, UNAVA is in the vanguard of the fight for FEPC, vet housing, social security, anti-poll tax and pro-labor legislation. It is a co-sponsor of the 100-day Crusade to Washington. Many UNAVA members belong to other vet organizations, and its leaders stress that it is not an all-Negro group, but welcomes whites and Negroes, who will give special emphasis to Negro rights in the general struggle for all veterans. It accepts Merchant marines and veterans of the civil war against Franco Spain. One year's membership costs $3. Another recent creation is the American veterans of World War II — commonly called Amvets — which got underway behind a liberal facade, but showed its true colors when it denied Negroes membership in its ritzy District of Columbia housing project. It does not outlaw Jim Crow posts or chapters and has not taken a stand on FEPC, the poll tax, the Wagner - Ellender - Taft general housing bill and other progressive legislation. It costs $4 to join.

On Reactionary Front

The largest veterans outfit in the country is the American Legion which received a long list of black marks early after creation in World War I, when it was reportedly used to fight labor unions and any progressive change in the nation's racial pattern.

For the most part the Legion has either remained silent or openly fought legislation favorable to the Negro people. With the exception of a few mixed chapters in the North, the Legion supports Jim Crow posts but offers gaudy uniforms and big parades instead. Membership costs $1 per year.

Similar to the Legion, in its big money backing, is the Veterans of Foreign Wars. VFW leaves the Jim Crow issue to the judgment of state commanders—which usually enforce segregation; does not refer to race in its constitution; also sports loud uniforms and rousing conventions; supported the general housing bill, but does not commit itself on other urgent issues vital to Negroes and organized labor. It costs $2 to join and $3 a year.

Inter-Racial Vet Conference Opens

The Worker New York.
Sun. 4-7-46

Special to The Worker

CHICAGO.—Negro veterans from every part of the nation, supported by their white buddies, will meet in a national conference here April 6-7 at DuSable High School, 49th and State Streets.

The object of the conference is to form a national inter-racial veterans organization, whose main aim will be to fight discrimination.

Approximately 150 Southern Negro and white vets are expected from the South. Altogether, 500 veterans are expected to attend.

Support for the efforts of the Provisional Committee for a National Veterans organization, sponsoring of the conference, came last week from Henry A. Wallace. Wallac expressed his hope that the conference would be successful "in finding a partial solution to the problem of racial discrimination."

Similar support was received from Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, Rep. Hugh DeLacy Washington Congressman, as well as World War II state and local organizations of Negro vets, north and south.

A widely representative delegation is expected here from Southern states. Southern Negro vets have responded widely to the call of the conference, viewing it as an instrument to help fight fascist-like attacks. The conference will discuss ways to secure their rights in every sphere of life.

Several panels are scheduled on the key issues facing Negro vets. These include health, housing, jobs, education and equal rights.

Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., will address the conference, as well as Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Rep. William Dawson and Ferdinand Smith of the National Maritime Union. Sun. 4-7-46

The conference stems from the deep desire of Negro veterans to secure for themselves the democratic rights for which they fought on far-flung battlefields. It is significant that most of these vets declare this will be achieved only in alliance with labor and progressive groups.

Army Jim Crow Victim Defeats FDR. Jr. In Poll

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 10-5-46

NEW YORK.—From his air of quiet self-assurance, the observer might never guess that Franklin H. Williams, lean, intense young attorney, who recently outpolled Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. in an American Veterans Committee election, had been the victim of a series of the worst Jim Crow incidents the U.S. Army could produce.

In the office of the Metropolitan Area Council of the American Veterans Committee, of which he is chairman, Williams, in a recent interview, recalled how after being drafted along with a group of white men, he and other colored selectees were divorced from the party, an act that immediately attracted attention to the racial differences of which none of them had been aware until that time.

He remembered how at one station, the Negro troops were quartered in none too comfortable tents, while the whites lived in steam-heated barracks.

Left Service Bitter

Then there was the time, he and other Negro troops were riding the Jim Crow car from El Paso, Tex., to St. Louis, a three-day trip. They were not permitted to enter the dining car and the food peddlers ignored them. They would have starved, he said, had it not been for the sympathy of other Negroes riding in the Jim Crow coach who shared their lunches with them.

These were some of the memories with which he was mustered out of the service.

Later at the first national meeting of the AVC in Des Moines, he decided to run for membership on the national planning committee of the organization, and the results so astounded him that it took the edge off his bitterness.

Other candidates were Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., Oren Root Jr., founder of the Willkie Clubs of America in the 1940 presidential campaign; Robert Mathan, one of FDR's braintrusters and Michael Straight, an editor of the New Republic. His candidacy seemed only a gesture.

But when the returns were tallied, he had 29,786 votes, more than any of the others. Nathan was second with 22,624 and FDR Jr. was third with 22,491. The top 16 were made members of the committee.

Elected Top Man

Then in May of this year, democracy overrode prejudice again and he was unanimously elected chairman of the Metropolitan Area Council of AVC, a post comparable to chairman of the board of directors of a corporation, except that it pays no salary.

That is why he was ensconced behind a desk in the council's office overlooking Lexington ave. and 52nd st.

At 28, he is self confident, a graduate of Fordham Law School, and an assistant special counsel for the NAACP.

He's thoroughly sold on the AVC and sees it as an instrument through which, not only his, but the faith of others in American democracy can be revived.

Though there is an air of reserve about him, he boasts two extravagances, his 23-year-old wife a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Hunter College, and six-month-old Franklin Jr.

He hasn't got them situated just as he would like, but their little three-room apartment on Brooklyn's Decatur st. is for all its modesty, home.

And he likes that, too.

Unwelcome Defender Chicago, Ill.

VETERANS of Foreign Wars held their annual Encampment in Boston last September. On the 4th, they treated the bean-towners to the pageantry of their annual parade. Bostonians took it in stride. Sat. 11-30-46

Boston's South Side where American Negroes, West Indian Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Portuguese, Armenians, Scandanavians and the inevitable Irish live and blend happily, turned out, however, to see what all the band playing and flag waving was about. All went well until the Georgia Delegation reached the corner of Columbus ave. and Dartmouth st.

Sight of Georgia banners flying in the breeze and Georgia belles strutting with their men folks was too much. A "beat" looking from a second story window removed his pipe Irishman leaning from and yelled so that everybody could hear: "Go on back to Georgia where you belong,—we don't want your kind up here!"

Georgia peaches lose step. Before they could regain composure, a buxom colored lady, rather run down at the heels, elbowed herself right up to the rope holding the crowd back, and added her bit: "Yeah, why don't you all go on back down where you belong . . . you, you old Nigger killers!" The Georgia delegation didn't do much strutting after that, it was a frightening experience.

Yugoslav Girl Leader Meets Allied Vets

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-22-46

Veterans who saw action in Italy get together with Lt. Nada Kraigher of the Yugoslav Partisan Army who has just completed a tour of the United States and Canada for the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief, at the organizing conference of the United Negro and Allied (UNAVA) Veterans of America, in New York. Lt. Kraigher was invited to address the conference when it was learned that she had fought side by side with combat troops in the Italian and Yugoslav sectors, many of whom were rescued by the Partisans after being shot down by the Germans. Seated left to right are: Oliver Martin, formerly with the 92nd Division, now State Commander of the N.Y. Chapter of UNAVA; Bert Alves, formerly with the 742nd Anti-Aircraft battalion, and Northeast Regional Director of UNAVA, Thelma Delmoor, former Wac; Jawn Sandifer, attorney, and formerly with the 1st Air Force, now Judge Advocate for the N.Y. Chapter; Lieutenant Kraigher, Ted Shearer, noted cartoonist with the Ladies Home Journal and Continental Features Syndicate and formerly with the 92nd Division, and Gordon Roberts formerly with the 366th Infantry and now N.Y. State Veterans Counselor.

Veterans' Whirl

WHICH WAY, JOE?

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

Now is the time for all good veterans to join one veterans organization or another.

Three months after VJ-Day new veteran organizations were springing up all over the country. Today they are dying out just as fast as they were organized. Only the strong remain, and here is a look at the strongest: Fri. 10-11-46

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Probably the strongest, one of the most conservative, recently broke a precedent and permitted several Jim Crow chapters to be organized in the South, even more recently denied a charter to an interracial group of vets in the District of Columbia. It offers colored veterans the benefit of a national service officer, mixed chapters in the North, Jim Crow chapters in the South, and the opportunity to wear a flashy uniform in parades. Several of the Jim Crow chapters have excellent club houses.

Dues can be paid annually for life. Cost you a buck a year. Six bits of your dough goes for subscriptions to the two Legion publications, and two bits goes to the national office. The Legion favors compulsory military training, opposes the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security bill, refused to commit itself on FEPC, transfer of USES to the states and anti-poll tax legislation.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Lots of dough behind this one. Has a legislative lobbyist here in Washington which it pays $10,000 a year (ten thousand, that is) to lobby for veterans legislation. Throws a lot of weight around in the Veterans Administration. Doesn't mention race or color in its constitution, but leaves membership to discretion of state commanders who may approve or reject colored organizations. If you are south of the border and join this one you will be in a Jim Crow chapter. Offers the service of a national service officer. Jim Crow club house, plenty pretty suits and parades and a hell-raising convention every year. Agrees with Legion on cumpulsory military training, undecided on minimum wage bill, surprised everyone at its last convention by going all out for Wagner-Ellender-Taft Housing bill, stuck its tongue in its cheek on FEPC, anti-poll tax and transfer of USES to states. Cost you two bucks to join, but has a minimum fee of three bucks a year. Must have had foreign service to join.

AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE

Loudest, lustiest and most liberal of all vet groups. Constitution forbids Jim Crow chapters, has colored vets on national planning committee, called communistic by the VFW because of the way it looks out for your people, had one tussle with Jim Crow over an interracial housing project in Washington, D. C., took one look at the racial restrictive covenant on the property site, cancelled the whole project and came out with colors flying. Was officially recognized by the Veterans Administration last week, but Bilbo has sworn never to let it get a Congressional charter. Criticized for accepting Merchant Marine and war correspondents, but seems to thrive on criticism. Sidesteps the compulsory training issue, goes all out for minimum wage, Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security bill, opposed Case anti-strike bill, favored FEPC, fought returns of USES to states, supports Wagner-Ellender-Taft Housing bill and fights for anti-poll tax legislation. Cost you a five spot to join for one year, and there are no assessments.

AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

(Amvets): Surprise outfit of World War II. Let AVC do a lot of yelling while it quietly went about getting a charter from Congress and becoming the first World War II outfit to be recognized by the VA. Put on a bold front for colored veterans memberships until it looked as if it would be able to buy a swanky housing project in the District of Columbia. Did an about-face then and told Tan Yanks they could not become members of the cooperative and live in the project. Sits back and plays both ends from the middle, being non-committal on issues like poll tax, FEPC, minimum wage law and housing bill; wins lots of friends by walking the middle of the road but looks the other way and allows its chapters to cater to Mr. James Crow. Cost you four bucks to join, offers you national service officer and some of the smoothest national staff operators in the country. Fri. 10-11-46

Fordham Law Graduate Among Top AVC Leaders

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-21-46

Comrades Recognize His Fight Against Segregation; Denied Promotion in Army

NEW YORK—Franklin H. Williams, 28, Brooklyn attorney, performed quite an election feat during the first American Veterans Committee convention at Des Moines, Iowa, when he received more votes (29,786) than four of his noted opponents, for a place on the National Planning Committee.

He defeated Robert Nathan, economist, one of the late President Roosevelt's braintrusters (22,624 votes); Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. (22,491 votes'; Oren Root, Jr., founder of Willkie Clubs in America in the 1940 Presidential race; and Michael Straight, an editor of New Republic magazine.

Champions Democracy

His veteran comrades paid this signal tribute to Williams, a graduate of Fordham University Law School, in tribute to his uncompromising stand for democracy—when he was a private in Southern camps during the war, and now as assistant special NAACP counsel.

Last May, Williams, a member of Brooklyn Chapter No. 1, of the AVC, was unanimously elected chairman of the Metropolitan Area Council of the organization, the superior body for all AVC chapters in the city's five boroughs.

Williams related how, en route to St. Louis from El Paso, Tex., in a jim-crow coach colored soldiers were refused dining car service during the 2-day ride, and ignored by food peddlers on the train and at wayside stations.

Denied Promotion

On that occasion, they subsisted on food spared them from their own supply by generous passengers. Williams said the white men with whom he was drafted, treated him like a pariah after reaching Fort Dix (N.J.) reception center.

He was never promoted because of his rebellion against Army segregation. His wife is a 23-year-old Hunter College graduate with a Phi Beta Kappa key. He would like to see "a society in which all people are considered equal and given equality of opportunity."

CLGROUP IN SOUTH HITS AT EMPLOYERS

Leader of Negro-White Body Is Completely Disillusioned, He Says at Little Rock

New York

By HAROLD B. HINTON

Special to The New York Times.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Aug. 25—Of the 11,000 members the organization claimed, some 7,000 were Negroes, he estimated, adding that "we do not preach and we do not believe in economic

Complete disillusionment regarding employers, as a class, was expressed here today by James T. Karam on behalf of the Veterans Industrial Association, of which he is founder-president. He said this organization was six months old and had 11,000 members in Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

It was started, he stated, with the name of Eugene Sikori, of Pittsburgh, vice president, in addition to his own. He said that the committee was composed of three Southerners and two Northerners. It was said to be administrative committee of five, but he would disclose only

"We also started out under the illusion that all employers were fair and honest and would do the right thing if given a chance to help their employers as are as big racketeers as certain unions and union officials."

"We were bitterly disappointed months we have been organized and have found out in the six that a great majority of employing employers are eligible for membership in the VIA, Mr. Karam declared. The organization was said to be open to the object of protecting veterans

equality." Mon 8-26-46

"A decent colored person only wants to be treated decently and with respect," he continued, "and we have always done that. If there has been a revival of the KKK, it has been brought about by the trash in both races who have sold their self-respect for dollars and power."

The organization had sent out public appeals for "all red-blooded Americans" to join vigilantes' committees in every county and town in Arkansas, it was stated. These committees would not wear "any mask or sheets, and will be glad to protect our workers and people, both colored and white, from all labor and race agitators," the announcement said.

"We do not need any foreign union which does nothing but take our money, freedom and everything else and gives us nothing but trouble in return," Mr. Karam said.

Another pronouncement of the organization calls upon "all workers to throw off the chains of (Premier) Stalin, (John L.) Lewis and (Philip) Murray."

Having accomplished this step, workers are invited to join the VIA, "truly an organization for the benefit of its members, first, last and always."

Mr. Karam conceded that his organization had made mistakes. He regretted that responsible, experienced citizens had not seen fit to advise him and his colleagues in the early days.

Resents 'Strike-breaking' Tag

It was during this period of unbounded confidence in employers that his organization was branded as a strike-breaking outfit, he said, and he bitterly resented this.

He said that he recruited some Negro laborers to work for an Arkansas plant, the workers of which were on strike, because the proprietor promised he would pay the newcomers fair wages and give them good working conditions. Apparently the employer did not live up to Mr. Karam's idea of those conditions and his defection led to the disillusionment of which he now complained, it was indicated.

He was also reticent about the military records of the directing figures of the VIA, saying: "We don't want to make out we are a lot of heroes." He finally said that he himself served from 1943 to 1945 as a member (not a pilot) of a combat crew in the naval air service. He added that he was discharged from the Naval Hospital in San Diego as the result of injuries suffered in an airplane crash.

So far as he could remember, Mr. Karam stated, Mr. Sikori had served for four years as a radio technician in the Army Air Forces, with service in Italy, France and Germany. Mr. Sikori was not present during the interview.

According to his account, Mr. Karam first became interested in labor matters while he was a student at Auburn, where he was a leading football player. In the summer of 1937, he worked in an Alabama tire factory which the CIO was trying to organize.

Between his graduation from Auburn and his entry into the Navy, Mr. Karam said he was in the hotel and liquor business. He had had no experience as a professional labor organizer prior to forming the VIA, he stated.

Mon 8-26-46

Found Veterans 'Victimized'

He returned to Arkansas after the war and, he said, was shocked to find workers paid as little as 40 cents an hour in factories and mills, with girls working for chain stores for $16 a week, and the State's school teachers among the most poorly paid in the country. Then he learned about the veterans being victimized by racketeers as they looked for civilian jobs, and his mission became clear to him, he asserted.

His organization went on strike, he said, only "after every American way has been tried to settle all disputes."

"Our policy toward other unions in regard to their strikes," he said, "is that if the workers are on strike to obtain benefits for themselves we will help in every way possible. If a strike is called by someone other than the workers themselves, we do not recognize it as a strike. If a union or union leader demands that workers strike for a closed shop, maintenance of dues, or check-off we do not recognize it."

Negro Vet Group Meets in Arkansas

Meeting in Little Rock, Ark., and announcing that its creed does not call for social but for economic equality of Negroes, the Veterans Industrial Association which claims a membership of 11,000 in Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida—7,000 of whom are Negroes—has issued an appeal to Southern employers for raising of the employment standards of former GIs.

In a statement, James T. Karan, the organiation's founder-president, said:

"We do not preach and do not believe in race equality, but we do believe in economic equality.

"A decent colored person only wants to be treated decently and with respect," he continued, "and we have always done that. If there has been a revival of the KKK, it has been brought about by the trash in both races who have sold their self-respect for dollars and power."

The organization has sent out appeals to "all red-blooded Americans to join vigilantes committees in every county and town in Arkansas," Karan stated. These committees, he said, will not wear masks or sheets and "will be glad to protect our workers and our people, both colored and white, from all labor and race agitators."

NEGRO VETERAN ASKS 'DEMOCRACY AT HOME'

Herald Tribune, NY

COLUMBUS, Ohio, July 4 (AP)—Methodist war veterans from all parts of the country were told by a Negro former serviceman tonight there were a few million black Americans "that fought for democracy who are not so sure it exists."

Charles H. Weston Jr., of Houston, Texas, a former T/5 in the Ninety-third Division in the Pacific, declared in an address prepared for the opening session of the four-day Methodist Veterans' and Bishops' conference:

"The men and women of America traveled around the world and have seen more living democracy in other countries in many respects than they have ever seen at home. They saw men of all nationalities, creeds and colors working together for a common cause. And some want to see this at home." 7-4-46

Bishop Ivan Lee Holt of St. Louis, declared in his prepared talk, "the great task of Protestantism after the war" was to make the church "a spiritual and transforming agency."

Bishop Holt, who represented the American section of the World Council of Churches on a recent tour of European churches, said the church must seek "an agreement among educators of all lands on those principles of ethics and human conduct which will give to youth everywhere the same longings for a better and happier human race." Sun. 7-6-46

There will be discussion groups among the veterans and the bishops tomorrow and Saturday. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of New York, president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, will deliver the closing sermon Sunday in the Ohio State University stadium.

Colored Veterans Organize

The colored veterans of Trousdale County met recently in the court house and organized an American Legion Post.

The post is to be known as Lewis Peyton in honor of two colored soldiers who saw service in World War 1.

The following officers were elected: Davis D. Owens, Commander; Joe Dell McCadden, Vice-Commander; Willie Lee Luster, Adjutant; Warren G. Marshall, Sergeant at Arms; Lewis Thompson, Treasurer; Lorenzo Carr, Historian; and Robert Rickman, Chaplain.

A membership campaign is now on and it is the hope of the post members to have every veteran in Trousdale County affiliated with the organization. Since one distinct characteristic of joining the Legion is having an honorable discharge certificate, men who didn't go overseas and all World War 1 veterans are asked to affiliate.

Regular meetings are held the second and fourth Saturday nights of each month in the court house. All members are urged to be out early and to bring along some veterans.

150 NEGRO VETS PARADE IN CITY

About 150 Negro veterans of the Veterans Welfare association yesterday paraded in uniform along Trade street through the business section and on to city hall, where they presented city officials with a petition asking the appointment of Negro veterans under full civil service status to local police jobs.

Specifically, the writ asked that the civil service commission certify, and prescribe areas of patrol, for five Negro veterans who recently passed civil service tests for police duty. It urged the commission and council to place under civil service two other veterans who are now on the police force as special officers. It listed another veteran, Joseph White of the Welfare association, and asked that he be considered for a position as policeman or city detective.

Other requests:

That a member of the veterans' group be placed on the city's veterans advisory committee.

That any member of the group who makes application for a license to operate a taxicab in Negro sections be granted the same consideration as any other applicant.

The petition was signed by Trezzvant W. Anderson, acting chairman of the Veterans Welfare association, and John F. Summersette, acting secretary.

PLANS ARE MADE FOR NEGRO UNIT OF DAV IN CITY

State and local chapter leaders of the Disabled American veterans met with several Negroes in the Y.M.I. auditorium last night to lay the groundwork for the organization of a Negro chapter of the DAV.

James Kennedy, of Raleigh senior vice-commander of the state department; Fred Burnett, Jr., of Asheville, junior vice-commander of the state department; Robert J. Craddock, commander of Buncombe county chapter No. 2; R. K. Shotwell, past state commander; Jospeh G. Riddle, executive committeeman of the local chapter, and William M. Miller, adjutant-treasurer of the local chapter, attended the meeting.

Dr. Herbert N. White and the Rev. Sanders S. Harris were selected to take charge of organization plans.

Louis Honored By United Negro Veterans Group

Chronicle Detroit Michigan Sat. 7-27-46

CHICAGO — Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, was honored Tuesday night by the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

Nearly 400 members and guests attended the banquet at the Parkway ballroom.

Given Scroll

Louis was given a testimonial scroll praising his service to his country as a member of the armed forces and his outstanding record of sportsmanship in the boxing profession.

Louis failed to qualify in the Tam O' Shanter Golf tournament.

Program Instituted To Aid Negro Claims

A program to assist Negro veterans in filing claims for terminal leave pay has been instituted by the Columbus Chapter of the National Council of Negro Veterans, Inc., it has been announced.

Individuals or agencies who desire information concerning various programs for Negro veterans in Atlanta may write Joseph Bickers, 583 Houston St., N. E., Commander of the Atlanta Council.

NEGRO ATTORNEY VFW DEPUTY STAFF CHIEF

CHATTANOOGA, June 23. (AP) Robert H. Craig, Chattanooga Negro attorney, today was appointed deputy chief of staff in charge of Negro posts of the Tennessee Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars by State Commander E. W. Wimpee.

"This is the first time in the history of the department that a Negro has been named to the state staff," Wimpee said, "and I believe it is the first such appointment in the South."

Craig, a veteran of World War I, is judge advocate of Howard Adair VFW post, one of six Negro posts in the state.

Colored Veterans Club Incorporated

The colored veterans of World War II, will hold its meeting every Tuesday night at Hamilto

II (Amvets) closed here last week selected for the next meeting that
enter at 8 p. m. Walter R. Gerer of Arlington, practiced discrimination against
eau, president, has issued a re- Negroes or where Negro veterans
uest that all colored veterans be went on record would not get equal treatment.
resent as matters of importance The body also went on record as
re to be brought up. The charter against the Ku Klux Klan and
as just been received from the Omaha, Nebr., was selected as
ecretary of state. the site for next year's meeting
H. McCreary, of the groups. Sat. after the resolution
A. Mitchell, against race discrimination, the side-tracking of an issue
Publicity Committee. fourth national convention of the next convention site. The
American Veterans of World War in effect that no city

$50,000 CORPORATION FORMED BY CALIF. VETS

PASADENA, Calif. — Organization of 175 jobs for veterans and their former comrades, 10 veterans have formed the United Industrial Corporation, a $50,000 enterprise. Baltimore, Md.

Veterans Adopt Anti-Bias Plank

Chicago, Ill.
ST. LOUIS — Going on record against discrimination
against race

62c 1946

veterans

"Many White Vets Jnderstand"

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

By JOSEPH CLARK

At one of the big GI rallies last January in Oahu, 5,000 Negro and white soldiers demanded that the War Department accept Negro infantrymen in the German occupation force. One of the leaders of that rally and the other demobilization actions in Hawaii was a 35-year-old warrant officer in the 372d Infantry, Ewart G. Guinier. Today he is back at his post as vice-president of the New York State, County and Municipal Workers of America.

Having attended the Chicago convention which established the United Negro and Allied Veterans, Guinier was enthusiastic about the results. Dec. 4-16-46

GUINIER

"The most heartening thing about the convention," Guinier told the Daily Worker, "was that there were many white vets present who understood that the problem of the Negro is the problem of all Americans."

"This fight for unconditional equality for all people is a major effort to stymie the drive of poll-taxers like Byrnes and witch-hunters like Rankin to do to America what Hitler wasn't able to do."

Asked about the issues discussed by the Chicago gathering, Guinier stressed the panels which unraveled the job discrimination, educational and apprenticeship barriers which faced Negro vets.

"The delegates realized that they had allies in the fight against discrimination, in the first place organized labor.

"The convention determined to fight discrimination practiced by a minority of unions. In fighting such practices the delegates wanted it clearly understood that this should not be construed as anti-labor sentiment or activity."

To illustrate the awareness of the delegates, a large number of whom came from the South, Guinier described the discussion around the question of membership qualifications. Dec. 4-16-46

"Southern delegates took the lead in amending the proposed membership qualification so that holders of blue discharges (neither honorable nor dishonorable) would have their cases reviewed by the National Council to determine whether the vet had been fairly dealt with by the War Department." Guinier explained that a disproportionate number of Negroes were given blue discharges merely because they were Negroes. Dec. 4-16-46

What about the SCMWA and its vets?

300 Vets Hear Rep Endorse Formation Of UNAVA Chapter

Washington Tribune

More than 300 Veterans and their non-veteran friends heard Rep. John M. Coffee, (Dem. Wash.) endorse the principles and policies of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, in an address at a Mass Meeting of Veterans and Citizens Friday.

Dec. 4-16-46 Inc.

The meeting, which was held at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, 12th and Vermont Avenue, Northwest, was sponsored by the Washington Provincial of UNAVA, which was the opening of a conference to form a chapter of that organization here.

"The colored people of America, are really rallying to fight back for their rights, at long last, and I am very happy that UNAVA is planning to have a chapter on the West Coast, which will be made up, predominantly of Mexicans, Chinese, Japanese-Americans, and whites," Mr. Coffee fourther said.

Other speakers on the program were Ian Ross McFarlane, noted news analyst of Station WWDC, who told his audience he was from "the city of Jim Crowism, and all the other 'isms,' the city of Baltimore, in the free state of Maryland."

He said this country is being endangered by the advancing hordes of Fascism, and that we must now all rally together and "fight back" and stop laying back unconcerned with what is happening around us, from day to day. Washington

National Adjutant of UNAVA, George B. Murphy, Jr., brought greetings from the national body in Chicago, and said that four more states had joined the organization since the national conference in April, bringing the total of states to 26. D. C.

A telegram was read from Joe Louis, honorary commander of UNAVA, and a proclamation from J. Finley Wilson, the grand exalted ruler of Elks, telling of his endorsement of UNAVA.

Chairman of the meeting was Rayfus Williams, and the aims and purposes of the conference were told by John O'Killens, the chairman of the Provincial Committee.

The Rev. L. C. Collins, assistant pastor of the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

John O. Killens, a veteran of more than 26 months in the Pacific, was elected commander of the first Washington chapter.

A city-wide conference was held on Saturday and Sunday at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 12th and R Streets, N.W., for all veterans.

Officers elected to serve for one year with Commander Killens were: Rayfus Williams, adjutant; Weldon Jiggettes, finance officer; Robert Lee, vice-commander; William Taylor, sergeant-at-arms; and Gertrude Hall (membership), Joseph A. Beavers (ways and means), Conrad Clark (publicity), and Richard Bancroft (legislative), staff officers.

Lynchburg Negroes Form Amvet Post

Times-Dispatch
Richmond, Va. Sun. 8-4-46

LYNCHBURG, Aug. 3—Fifty Negro servicemen have formed a unit of the Amvets — American Veterans of World War II—and will seek a charter, Dr. Hubert Scott Diuguid, temporary chairman of the group, has made known.

Plans for the organization were outlined by members of the white post who conducted the initial meeting of the Negro group.

Vet Group Opens Drive for 100,000 Negro Members

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. Dec. 4-16-46

CHICAGO, May 14.—The first national organizing campaign aimed directly at the nation's Negro veterans of World War II will open tomorrow. It will be undertaken by the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America. Campaign plans were drawn up during a two-day session of the organization's National Council held here over the weekend.

Goal of the campaign will be the organization of 100,000 veterans throughout the country.

State conferences of the organization will be held in June in New

AVC Fights Jim Crow In Meeting

Atlanta Daily World

DES MOINES, Ia. — (ANP) — When word of the affair reached the convention, 200 delegates left the hall and formed a picket line outside the tavern, shouting "Jim Crow must go." Dec. 4-16-46

The delegate was denied a glass of beer in a tavern opposite convention headquarters.

When word of the affair reached the convention, 200 delegates left the hall and formed a picket line outside the tavern, shouting "Jim Crow must go."

Warning that again the Negro veteran faces "the dreary prospect of being the marginal man in American society," the statement pointed out that for Negro veterans the fight against discrimination is "a bitter reservation the Southern workers.

"The nation's nearly 1,600,000 Negro veterans of World War II are fast becoming the forgotten men of America's program of reconversion to peace," the statement said. "The Negro veteran of this war is, as a result of his war experiences, a greatly awakened and more articulate being. He is determined to secure the things for which he fought and to launch campaigns to unionize enjoy without reservation the benefits of democracy which he helped defend."

Warning that again the Negro veteran faces "the dreary prospect of being the marginal man in American society," the statement pointed out that for Negro veterans the fight against discrimination is "a bitter reservation the Southern workers.

"The nation's nearly 1,600,000 Negro veterans of World War II are fast becoming the forgotten men of America's program of reconversion to peace," the statement said. "The Negro veteran of this war is, as a result of his war experiences, a greatly awakened and more articulate being. He is determined to secure the things for which he fought and to launched campaigns to unionize enjoy without reservation the benefits of democracy which he helped defend."

The first national organizing campaign will be the York, Ohio, Illinois, District of Columbia, Maryland and Texas.

ADOPT NATIONAL POLICY

The National Council unanimously adopted a national policy on the major issues confronting Negro vet-

battle against bigotry and injustice," the statement added.

The UNAVA Council also endorsed a Negro delegate to serve on the civil rights law, and a hearing was scheduled for Tuesday

Negro, White Vets Unite Against Bias and War

By CLAUDIA JONES

CHICAGO. — Someone called them "a full battalion of soldiers in peace." And well they were — these 400 Negro and white veterans who formed a fighting new organization last weekend called the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

From the time the gavel went down, opening this historic gathering, they gave the lie to the Bilbos and Eastlands and other belittlers of the Negro's contribution to victory over fascism. By their actions they showed they mean to finish the job they started overseas.

They went on record opposing every form of racial discrimination, as well as world imperialism and vestiges of world fascism. They took their stand for Big Three unity and for unqualified support to organized labor.

Among them were veterans who, only a few months ago, were driving trucks on the Lido Road; high balling on the Red Ball Express; handling supplies on the assault wave of Saipan; building air-strips under enemy fire; strafing German positions with P-61's, smashing Nazi pillboxes on the Gothic line.

DREAMS SHATTERED

These Negro vets had come home to have their hopes dashed; their dreams shattered, their yearnings for peace, security and full freedom unsatisfied. Here among them was evidence of the lynch terror directed against them —the young Negro veterans — Jimmy Stephenson of Columbia City, Tenn., and Richard Ferguson of Freeport, L. I.

It was a "grass roots" movement. They had already gotten together in their own localites, through their own efforts. On the conference floor were Negro and white delegates from the newly-formed Alabama Veterans Association; the Georgia Veterans League, the 92nd Division Association; the United Veteran for Equality. Others came from established veterans organizations and as individuals.

They came by carload, bus and train from the deep South, east and west, in the words of Joe Louis, honorary chairman of these vets, to "make America fulfill her promises to us."

15 PERCENT WHITE VETERANS

Their yearnings for full freedom and equality was seen in the panel sessions. So was the support of the white veterans, who were about 15 percent of the meeting.

Officers and leaders of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America are shown on speakers' platform

Attorney Lauren France, white

KENNETH C. KENNEDY
National Commander

Tennessee veteran, discussed the need to "wage an active anti-polltax campaign." "We must utilize the Primus King Case in which the Supreme Court recently upheld the Negroes' right to vote," he hold the vets.

"We know lynch terror; we answer it through fighting for the rights entitled us", Cliff Edwards, New York combat veterans told the delegates in the educational panel. Edwards cited a number of instances in which Negro veterans have not "received a dime from the federal government" for educational benefits.

Their program called for an end to Ku Klux Klan rule in the South, noting the Columbia, Tenn., and Freeport, N.Y., were "storm signals of a future violence against the Negro people."

In their demands for civil rights, they called for enforcement of the GI Bill of Rights in the South where Negro veterans are being deprived of these rights. They resolved to take active part in the fight for adequate housing for the Negro as well as all vets.

Indicative of the significance of this event is the hearty approval voiced by a cross-section of Negro and white leaders of the country.

TIE IN WITH LABOR

Typical was the mass rally at du Sable High School in which Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the CIO National Maritime Union, told the vets that their "rightful place" as "another vital force in American life" was with organized labor.

"By creating this new organization and hammering out a program of action," Smith told the veterans, "you have served notice on the race haters, the bigots and fascists in America that you are organized to help finish the job you started overseas."

During the work of the Conference, the militant group of veterans, whose composition was 85 percent Negro, voted to accept the veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, men who fought in the Spanish Loyalist War against Franco in Spain. They are the only veterans' organization that has taken such action. They likewise voted to participate in the forthcoming National Labor Legionnaires' conference, after hearing an address by George C. Danfield, the national secretary. Officially represented were the Jewish War Veterans and the Disabled War Veterans.

They set up a national organization with headquarters in Chicago, and with seven regional offices, and a leadership council of 62 members.

It was Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, who summed up the overall significance of this organization. Speaking at the mass rally, she called the veterans' organization a "future leader not only of the rights of the Negro veterans, but a leading organization for the rights of the Negro people in America."

"Only through the unity of these men who have proven that they are not afraid to die in the battle for freedom will the Negro people make gains" the woman leader said. "They are not going to hunt for a fight, but they will not run from one in which their rights as American citizens are involved."

Veterans Name Anti-Bias Leader In New York

NEW YORK—A battle for the local chairmanship of the American Veterans Committee's anti-discrimination committee ended in the election of Bernard Bloch, Brooklyn, at a Metropolitan area council meeting Monday.

Attending the organization convention are 100 delegates representng 45 chapters in New York City and Nassau county.

In elections generally considered left-wing victories the following committee chairmen were chosen:

Norman L. Smythe, membership; Matthew Smith, policy; Paul B. Townsend, veterans' aid; Peter W. Oppenheimer, finance; and David Landman, publicity.

Negro Vets To Hear Phenizee Ransom, Jr.

Phenizee Ransom, Jr., veterans counselor at the United States Employment Service, will be principal speaker at a meeting of the Atlanta Chapter of the National Council of Negro Veterans at 8 p. m. Tuesday at the USO on Hunter Street.

The meeting is the first in a series of informational programs sponsored by the council. B. H. Muldrew, of Kansas City, Mo., National Commander of the organization, will also speak.

AVC Plans First National Convention

WASHINGTON — The first national convention of the American Veterans Committee, a new liberal group which grew out of World War II, will be held in Des Moines, Ia., June 14 to 16.

The convention will mark the "coming of age" of the organization, which has 60,000 members in 500 chapters throughout the nation. More than 1,500 delegates are expected to attend the convention at which national officers will be elected, a constitution approved, policy platforms adopted, and a permanent name chosen. The AVC has distinguished itself by fights for housing, price control, and integrated veterans legislation.

Col. Campbell Johnson of Selective Service Headquarters, Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace, and former War Production Board head Donald Nelson, will speak to the delegates. Panel discussions will be led by Harold Stassen, former governor of Minnesota; Walter Reuther, president, United Automobile Workers; Bishop Bernard J. Shiell, auxiliary bishop of Chicago; and Will Rogers Jr., former California representative.

COLORED VETS ORGANIZED

President Stresses Need for Veterans to Avail Themselves for Benefits

The colored veterans club No. [illegible] composed of 44 veterans of World War II held a regular meeting at the FBA hall on Padgett's Loop last Tuesday evening. President [illegible] Walter Gerideau. This club, a local organization, meets each Tuesday evening. The president would help make Colleton county a better place for those veterans not now in it. We need good citizens, and can be found on the streets, and especially around meet [illegible] members to join.

At the meeting last Tuesday afternoon, the president stating that time."

The president offered his services to any colored veteran of the county in filling out terminal leave papers, without charge. He should help make Colleton county a better place to live in by our living stubborn facts, and prepare to measure up to the demands of the or boisterous behavior on the street.

GROUP FOR COLLEGE

A group for the coming year are Vernon C. Coffey, Irving Kansas City, national instructor; H. Clayton Morton, Alabama City, and Mack C. Spears, Birmingham, national service officer.

62c 1946

The Southern Negro Veteran Fights Back

The Worker New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.

TWENTY-SIX Alabama veterans groups from as many cities of that state are represented in the new organization, the Alabama Veterans Association (AVA), organized recently at a convention in Birmingham, Ala.

The delegates came to Birmingham at the call of the Veterans Committee of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, which some weeks ago promoted the march of 100 veterans to the Jefferson County courthouse demanding the right to register as voters.

Jun 3-1945

Kenneth C. Kennedy, 21-year-old twice-decorated hero of the Battle of the Bulge, was elected state president. Kennedy, a student at Talladega College, is a native of Birmingham, and is also a vice-president of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

Following a discussion on reform in the armed forces, the delegates voted to characterize the Gillem Report as "too little and too late," and as "a gratuitous insult to the democratic aspirations of Negroes, for it leaves fundamentally unchanged the Jimcrow pattern of organization of the American army."

The new organization pledged itself to work for a series of measures for the improvement of the benefits of the GI Bill of Rights and protested "rampant discrimination in the application of these benefits to Negro veterans in the state."

Scoring the absence of adequate and equal provision for vocational and apprenticeship training for Negro veterans in the state, the resolutions charged collusion between local Veterans Administration authorities and reactionary employers in limiting the opportunities of Negro veterans in the in-plant apprenticeship training program.

Other resolutions dealt with the need for greater hospital, health and recreational facilities, low-cost price-controlled housing, state and federal FEPC laws; abolition of the poll tax and anti-lynching legislation.

Jun 3-31-45

A resolution took notice of the increase of police terror and judicial acquiesence in the wave of violence being meted out to Negroes and veterans throughout the South. A pledge was taken to bring to trial the police killers of Timothy Hood, of Bessemer, Ala., marine veteran who was shot to death on Feb. 23 because he moved a segregation sign on a street car.

The AVA "hailed the example of Corp. James Stevenson who defended his mother from attack in Columbia, Tenn., as a model of courage and manhood," and called for Federal prosecution of the Columbia "mob leaders and deputized bandits who ran amuck in their attacks upon the Negro citizens of that community."

The veterans also expressed concern for the preservation of the peace in the world for which they fought. Using as a point of departure remarks in the keynote speech of Jesse O. Thomas, Special Assistant to the Director of Domestic Operations of the American Red Cross, they condemned the recent speeches of Winston Churchill as war-inciting, and warned U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes against collusion with the British foreign policy.

Opening its doors to all veterans regardless of race, creed or color, the Alabama Veterans Association decided to set up headquarters in Birmingham and to launch a campaign for voting rights and a membership drive throughout the State. In addition to Kennedy, the following officers were elected: vice-president, Eugene Murphy, Birmingham; regional vice-presidents, Jonas B. Conley, Huntsville, Ala., and Leon Williams, Montgomery; corresponding secretary, Catherine Godfrey, Birmingham; financial secretary, Leonard Harris, Huntsville; public relations secretary, James E. Jackson, Jr., Birmingham; administrative secretary, Lorenzo Wyatt, Bessemer; treasurer, Nathan Langford, Normal; chaplain, Rev. H. C. Terrell, Birmingham, and sergeant-at-arms, Charles R. Coleman, Birmingham.

All officers plus members-at-large of a 23-member executive committee were given credentials as delegates to the conference to be held in Chicago, April 6 and 7, to establish a national veterans' organization. Joe Louis, native of Prattville, Ala., is serving as chairman of the provisional committee for the national conference, and Alabama veterans are determined to send a large delegation.

ORGANIZE H. U. CHAPTER OF AVC

Washington, D.C.
Tribune

(NNPA).—Plans for the organization of a chapter of the American Veterans Committee at Howard University were completed here last Thursday following an address at the school by Charles G. Bolte, national chairman of the organization.

The organization emphasized that the Howard chapter is open to members of all races and that any white students attending the school are eligible to join.

Bolte was introduced by James Baker, colored editor of the Greater Washington chapter of AVC.

A national convention of the organization will be held in Little Rock, Ark., in August.

ALABAMA VETERANS ORGANIZE—Some of the 150 veterans from 26 Alabama cities are shown at the conference where they formed the Alabama Veterans' Association. They met under the auspices of the Veterans' Committee of the Southern Negro Congress.

Negro Veteran Leader To Visit Birmingham

Hill 2 Birmingham Ala

B. L. Muldrew, national commander, National Council of Negro Veterans, will visit Birmingham June 9 and 10 and address the George Ruffin Post here.

5-2-46

Molton H. Gray, local post commander, and President Sarah McTyiere of the Woman's Auxiliary, said veterans of World Wars I and II and the general public are invited.

Sunday

A national convention of the organization will be held in Little Rock, Ark., in August.

Negro, White Vets Act for Nat'l Organization

By CLAUDIA JONES

Daily Worker

CHICAGO, April 7. — Over 400 Negro and white veterans from 20 states met in Du Sable High School today to form a national organization of veterans of World War II.

Among their number was a delegation from Columbia City, Tenn., headed by James Stephenson, young Negro veteran, whose defense of his mother had started off the lynch terror against Negro citizens in Tennessee. Seated among the New Yorkers was Richard Ferguson from Freeport, L. I., whose brothers were killed by Jimcrow-minded cop.

The entire audience stood briefly in tribute to Pvt. L. C. Herman of Elcampo, Tex., who on the Army Day, was scheduled to be executed by the state of Texas on the charge of allegedly "assaulting" an elderly white woman.

Delegates listened intently to the keynote address of Bertram S. Alves, national organizer for the Provisional Committee for a national scale offensive to undermine trade unions and living standards of the people."

Stressing the connection between the attacks on labor and the Negro people, Alves told the delegates that "labor and the Negro people have particularly we do not support a war that they against our great war ally, the Soviet Union, the country that bore the brunt of the fascist attacks, tools to the only country where racial and discrimination has been abolished."

Outlining the reasons for the formation of a national veterans organization, Alves stated that while

Negro and white veterans have fought shoulder to shoulder on the battlefronts of the world against the supremacy of the English speaking peoples" against the colonial and liberty loving peoples of the earth. Taking stand for Big Three unity as the key to reaching a full Alves continued: "We did not return to be embroiled in another conflict to bolster up the enslavement of our brothers overseas by British, Dutch, American or any other imperialism, people we would return to some day."

Among their number was a delegation from Columbia City, Tenn., headed by James Stephenson, young Negro veteran, whose defense of his mother had started off the lynch terror against Negro citizens in Tennessee.

Seated among the New Yorkers was Richard Ferguson from Freeport, L. I., whose brothers were killed by Jimcrow-minded cop.

The entire audience stood briefly in tribute to Pvt. L. C. Herman of Elcampo, Tex., who on the Army Day, was scheduled to be executed by the state of Texas on the

Alliance and "supremacy of the English speaking peoples" against the colonial and liberty loving peoples of the earth. Taking stand for Big Three unity as the key to reaching a full Alves continued: "We did not return to be embroiled in another conflict to bolster up the enslavement of our brothers overseas by British, Dutch, American or any other imperialism, people we would return to some day."

Among their number was a delegation from Columbia City, Tenn., headed by James Stephenson, young Negro veteran, whose defense of his mother had started off the lynch terror against Negro citizens in Tennessee.

Seated among the New Yorkers was Richard Ferguson from Freeport, L. I., whose brothers were killed by Jimcrow-minded cop.

The entire audience stood briefly in tribute to Pvt. L. C. Herman of Elcampo, Tex., who on the Army Day, was scheduled to be executed by the state of Texas on the charge of allegedly "assaulting" an elderly white woman.

Delegates listened intently to the keynote address of Bertram S. Alves, national organizer for the Provisional Committee for a national scale offensive to undermine trade unions and living standards of the people."

Stressing the connection between the attacks on labor and the Negro people, Alves told the delegates that "labor and the Negro people have particularly we do not support a war that they against our great war ally, the Soviet Union, the country that bore the brunt of the fascist attacks, tools to the only country where racial and discrimination has been abolished."

Outlining the reasons for the formation of a national veterans organization, Alves stated that while

Negro and white veterans have fought shoulder to shoulder on the battlefronts of the world against the

it would be interracial, it would be primarily geared to serve Negro veterans. Already, he told the delegates, Negro vets are "organized by the thousands in state, city, church and social groups." Typical of these is the newly formed Alabama veterans organization, whose president Kenneth Kennedy is active on the conference floor. The Georgia Veteran League, the 92nd Division's Veterans Association are also represented here.

Alves evoked the delegates to "unite in one great phalanx that can speak out nationally and get the ear of all right thinking Americans."

Greetings were received by the conference from Harold L. Iickes, Mary McLeod Bethune, Henry A. Wallace, university president F. D. Patterson, of Tuskegee, A. W. Dent of Dillard U., labor leaders like Saul Mills, Raymond Tilman, New Orleans Transport Workers Union, and Herbert March, of the Packinghouse Union, councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Rev. W. H. Jernagin of the Federal Council of Churches, Rep. Vito Marcantonio and Rep. Hugh DeLacy. mon. 4-8-46

Even the housing problem was solved with the aid of the local Red Cross, which had over 400 cots and 800 blankets sent by truck from St. Louis to accommodate these staunch veterans.

It's a single minded purpose that motivates them all right; that purpose is peace, security and equality

Over 400 From 22 States From United Group

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. wed 4-10-46

By LUTHER A. TOWNSLEY

CHICAGO—(ANP)— More than 400 white and Negro delegates from 22 states and the District of Columbia formed the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, a nation-wide organization, here Sunday during the second day of a national conference for a national veterans' organization at Du Sable High School.

Business to form the new national interracial veterans organization began Saturday morning at Dp Sable High following a crowded registration Friday at the Forro college building. Under the direction of Bertram Alves, New York, provincial chairman of the arrangement committee, preparations were made to elect permanent officers.

OFFICERS

Kennety C. Kennedy, Alabama was elected national commander. Seven national vice commanders were elected: They are Miss Ruth Freeman, Chicago; Tom Neil, New Jersey (White); Miss Catherine Godfrey, Alabama; Ruben Lewis, Ohio; Howard Johnson, New York City; Coleman Young, Detroit, and John Staggers, South Carolina.

Other officers include George B. Murphy, Washington, D. C. national adjutant; Lester Davis, New York, national finance officer; the Rev. Charles T. Watkins, Chicago, national chaplain and Ulysses S. Keys, Chicago, national advocate. National staff officers and a national surgeon must still be elected. wed 4-10-46

The new organization will comprise seven regions namely the western, southwestern, central western, southeastern, middle eastern, north Atlantic and middle western regions with regional headquarters at Los Angeles, Houston, St. Louis, Birmingham, Washington New York City and Detroit.

MASS MEETING

Principal speaker at Sunday night's mass meeting was Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown president of Palmer Memorial Institute of North Carolina and member of the Women's International Democratic federation. She hailed the formation of the new interracial veterans group and warned the nation against the danger of prejudice.

"America will one day lie in waste if it doesn't destroy this thing called prejudice," she said " another name for fascism."

She remarked that "there is no north, no south, no west, no east

THEIR SINGING CHEERED MILLION GIs IN EUROPEAN THEATER

The Informer Houston Texas Sat 4-27-46

The Caisson Choir, composed of enlisted men from the 350th and 351st Field Artillery Battalions, has cheered more than a million soldiers in England, Belgium, France, Scotland and Germany. Serving with units now a part of the occupation forces in Germany, the men performed in Paris for recordings and participated in several broadcasts. Chaplain (Captain) Hughes A. Robinson of Merchantville, New Jersey, now separated from the service, was managing director of the choir. Pictured are left to right, first row: Cpl. William Richardson, Richmond, Va.; Sgt. Rowan Allen, Memphis, Tenn.; S/Sgt. Warren Stanford, Merchantville, N. J.; Cpl. William Pinn. Lynchburg, Va.; Cpl. William Harris, Norton, Va.; Cpl. Samuel Walker, New Orleans, La.; Sgt. Ivery Jordan, Stonewall, Miss.; Pvt. Theodore Shellie, Dover, Ohio; Pfc. Lewis Blount, Akron, Ohio; Sgt. Warren Palmer, Brunswick, Ga. Second row: S/Sgt. Willie Dinkins, Indianapolis, Ind.; Cpl. Cornelius McIver, Ocilla, Ga.; Cpl. Birl King, Paris, Texas; Cpl. Joseph Grimes, St. Louis, Mo.; Sgt. Roscoe Nix, Chicago, Ill.; S/Sgt. Bryant Pegram, Claremont, N. C.; Pvt. Leslie Littles, Detroit, Mich.; Cpl. Ernie Doyle, Parsons, Kansas; Sgt. Thomas Holiman, Asbury Park, N. J.; Pfc. William Moore, Clarksville, Tenn. Third row: Cpl. Lawson Riley, Boston, Mass.; Pfc. Thomas Reid (Director), Philadelphia, Pa.; Cpl. Jerimiah Jamison, Rock Island, Ill.; Sgt. Carter McNary, Corpus Christi, Texas; Cpl. James Brown, New Bern, N. C.; Pfc. Sam Walton, Waco, Texas; Cpl. Thomas Sneed, Everett, Mass.; Pvt. Roy Williams, Caricana Texas; Pvt. Samuel Frazier, Memphis, Tenn. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

Have you registered?

as far as Negroes are concerned. Racial prejudice is a national problem."

"By creating this new organization and hammering out a program of action," said Ferdinand Smith secretary of the National Maritime union, "you have served notice on the race haters, the bigots and the fascists in America that you are organized to help finished the job you started overseas."

BLOW TO JIM CROW

"Your organization, in cooperation with the other veterans organization, labor and progressive groups, can deal a death blow to discrimination and win the birthright of freedom that too long has been denied to Negroes," Smith continued. "Negroes veterans alone cannot and will not solve the problems of Negroes."

Other speakers on the program were Walter Bernstein, white, a writer for Yank, a service publication; Allen Morrison, Stars and Stripes, another service paper, Herbert March, United Packinghouse workers of America, CIO; the Rev Lewis McGee, former army chaplain; and M. S. Stephens, past commander of Giles post, American legion.

The new organization has pledged to fight for equal rights, the right to a home, the right to a job, the right to adequate medical care, the right to an education and the right to a voice in "our government" regardless of race, creed or color.

Tennessee Negro Vets Score Terror

Daily Worker New York

Special to the Daily Worker

COLUMBIA, Tenn., March 18.—The newly organized Post No. 1 of Global War Veterans, Negro ex-servicemen's group, denounced the lynch violence and the shooting to death by Highway patrolmen of two Negroes in the County Jail last month. Tue. 3-19-46

V. K. Ryan, local undertaker and commander of the post, made public a resolution of the organization denouncing jimcrow discrimination and calling for unity of people of every race, creed and color. The resolution follows:

"Having served in all theatres of operation of the U. S. War Department in the Army, Navy, Marines and all branches of the service and having seen similar instances of violence and rioting the world over and knowing from experience that no good or justifiable settlement can come from it we do not desire that such should be the case in Columbia.

"It is important because the basic principle of all people being able to live and work together is involved. If we are sincere in believing that America should be a democracy where all people of every race, color, creed and origin can live peacefully and work for the things that all men want no matter how serious a situation might be, peaceful settlements can be worked out. When disagreements between Americans lead to large scale rioting with hundreds of persons involved, then we must admit that there is a problem and that we had best seek some solution.

"We cannot have an enlightened democracy with minority groups living in ignorance, neither can we have an enlightened democracy with minority groups so poor that they cannot buy the goods that America produces. Social ills can only be remedied by all members of society accepting their share of responsibility and cooperating through democratic means to solve their common problems. Even more disastrous is the effect that NEWS of ticularly in the far east. rope, Africa, the near east and par-

day, and Fred L. Thomas, chaplain.

Pittsburgh Pa.

ATLANTA—(ANP)—The framework for the first post of colored Veterans of Foreign Wars in Atlanta was set up last week when a group of overseas vets met with officials of the Louis J. Dinkler Post No. 3563, VFW, at the Butler Street YMCA and formed a temporary organization Sat 3-11-46

Officers elected were: John W. Shropshire, commander; Charles R. Milton, senior vice commander; Jesse Johnson, junior vice commander; Polk L. Powell, adjutant; Johnnie P. Jones, quartermaster; Memory Thurman, officer of the

potential contributions to the eral wealth and welfare.

V. K. Ryan, Commander F. R. Howell, Vice-Commander A. W. Hughes, Adjutant Thomas Jones, Treasurer

Georgia Vets Attacking Race Riots VFW

Organize

"Our country has been made great by little men who learned the secret of living and working together. Tue. 3-19-46

"We are all poorer in America today because discrimination prevents members of some minorities from achievements, thus lessening their

United Nations cause. It was powerful ammunition for the propagandist of the Axis countries in Europe rising to their greatest possible

the millions of people throughout the world, white and colored, whose loyalty and help are so vital to the

62c 1946

WHITES, NEGROES FORM NEW VETERAN GROUP

A group of World War II veterans, white and Negro, met yesterday at the Theresa Hotel, Seventh Avenue and 125th Street, under the leadership of James Watson Jr., son of Municipal Court Justice James S. Watson, to lay plans for the organization of a nation-wide body to include all races and creeds, with especial attention to "neglected sections of the country."

Mr. Watson, who had previously set up a State-wide body that met a day earlier at the West 135th Street branch of the Y. M. C. A., said that his group desired "no political affiliations as such" but wished to "grow up as a representative organization of the younger veterans." He denied that the organization would "allow itself" to become "the tool of any special group, Communist or otherwise."

According to Mr. Watson, the slowness of other veterans' groups be regretted," hence the decision to organize a new body "on an inter-racial basis."

Maurice Stember, deputy adjutant of the New York State department of the American Legion, said that the policy of the Legion was to prevent the organization of "too many posts," and that his office would "discourage the mushroom growth of new posts where a single veteran sometimes carries a post in his hip pocket for personal or political purposes." Mr. Stember said that the Legion had "more than a dozen" Negro posts in the State, although "theoretically, a Negro veteran could join posts with white veterans."

Negro Vets Sing For GIs Abroad

The Informer
Houston, Texas

PARIS—The Caisson Choir, an all-Negro group of 30 trained spiritual singers, has been appearing in Red Cross clubs throughout the European Theater of Operations on a six-months' engagement that has made them one of the most traveled groups in the U. S. Army. 2-19-46

Made up of two-star veterans of the 350th and 351st FA Battalions, the choir was formed at Camp Livingston, La., in 1943, and later transferred to Fort Sill, Okla., where the men sang to 12,000 GIs and over several radio networks. In Europe they have appeared at St. Paul's and Westminister Center Hall in London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Paris, Cannes, Nice, LeHavre, Rouen, Brussels, and Antwerp.

Join The United Enlisted Veterans of America

Black Dispatch Oklahoma City Okla.

Recently in this column, we took the American Legion to task for what we feel are its delinquencies, and failure to espouse democratic principles, and we did so with the hope that attention of returning GIs would be directed to veterans' organizations trending more towards the building of a more ideal America, for we feel as never before the American Negro should be careful in whatever movement he joins to have identified the friends of freedom.

Since the publication of that editorial we have received numerous letters from different sections of the country asking for information along this line. In today's mail we received a letter from Florence D. Portine, connected with the Army Air Forces, Western Technical Training Command, Denver, who sends along in her letter a United Enlisted Veterans of America folder, with executive offices on the third floor of the Flatiron building in the Colorado capital.

As we pointed out in our previous remarks on this subject, the American Legion has forced Negro soldiers to accept a segregated, jim crow status in their organization. Down in Mississippi, Negroes are not allowed to sustain any relationship whatsoever to the Legion. Intolerance was so rampant 25 years ago that veterans' organizations were jammed and chuck full of undemocratic practices such as indicated above, but in this day and time thousands of white people are opposed to this sort of injustice and are speaking out against it in no uncertain terms.

We are printing below portions of the constitution of the United Enlisted Veterans of America because it unquestionably has found its birth in freedom and human decency. If the Black Dispatch had its way, every Negro GI in the United States would join this veterans' organization or some other which espouses the same ideals as should dominate a veterans' organization. The Enlisted Veterans of America most assuredly offer black women a place in membership, and if for no other reason, Negro men and women should join this organization because it recognized the rights of black women who served in the armed services of the nation.

Sat 2-23-46

There follows a portion of the by-laws of the organization covering eligibility for membership:

Section 1. Any veteran of the armed forces of the United States of America, the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, including the women's components thereof: Wacs, Waacs, Waves, Spars, Women Marines, Yeomanettes, who shall have served in an enlisted capacity below the rank of Second Lieutenant or Ensign, in the armed forces of the United States at any time, and who shall have been honorably discharged, or discharged not of a dishonorable character, shall be eligible for membership in this organization. This shall include all persons who were enlisted or drafted.

"Section 2. Any person now serving in an enlisted capacity in the armed forces specified in Section 1 of this Article shall be eligible for membership in this organization, provided, however, that subsequent promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant or Ensign or higher in any of the said armed forces, shall terminate membership in this organization.

Section 3. Any person who shall be dishonorably discharged from any of the armed forces specified in Section 1 of this Article shall be ineligible for continued membership in this organization.

"Section 4. War correspondents, USO workers and entertainers from the field of stage and screen, Red Cross workers, and Merchant Marine personnel, and other civilians who served with our armed forces, and who did so much to lighten their burdens and who endured the hardships of those armed forces, are all hereby declared eligible for membership in this organization. They will be entitled to all the rights and privileges of this organization, with the exception of holding office therein, which is prohibited by an article in the constitution which provides that all officers of this organization must be formerly or presently enlisted men or women. This section does not make eligible for membership, Technicians, Nurses or others who served in a comparative commissioned capacity. This eligibility is made in order to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the service with these people, among whom were such as Joe E. Brown, Bob Hope, Irving Berlin, Marlene Dietrich and many others including our late friend and comrade, Ernie Pyle, who served the GIs so nobly—even being instrumental in encouraging the passage of the Bill in Congress which increased the pay of the 'Combat Infantryman."

"Section 5. No person shall be barred from membership in this organization because of race, creed, color, religious or political affiliations; those factors were not detrimental to service in the armed forces, nor shall they be to all rights of membership in this organization.

Sat 2-23-46

"Section 6. This organization is exclusively for personnel who served or are serving in an enlisted capacity only. Applications from persons who are serving or have served in the rank of Second Lieutenant or Ensign, or above, will not be accepted.

"Section 7. The women components of the armed forces and others covered by Section 4 of this Article are welcomed on an equal basis with the men of the armed forces, and all women, except those made eligible in Section 4 of this Article, will be eligible to hold office in this organization. Provision is made to insure at least one woman member on the National Executive Committee and in other offices."

The VLA

New RePublic

SIR: In the January 28 issue of the *New Republic*, Mr. Louis Falstein attempted a listing of the types of veterans' organizations now in existence. Unfortunately, Mr. Falstein overlooked the Veterans' League of America, the only anti-totalitarian (whether fascist or communist), pro-labor and anti-discrimination veterans' organization in being. 2-4-46

Organized in May, 1945, because no such organization existed, the League starts from the premise that "the welfare of the Veteran is inseparable from the welfare of the entire country: Negro and white, Jew and Gentile." In line with this principle, the Veterans' League of America has already committed itself on a number of vital issues. To name some of the important ones:

1. We have endorsed labor's efforts to gain a substantial wage increase and we are coöperating with labor wherever possible.

2. We are working for the continuation of rent and price controls to prevent the pauperization of the veteran and the country.

3. We are coöperating with the Committee for a Permanent FEPC to gain the passage of this vital measure.

4. We are opposed to compulsory military training.

5. We support the 65-cent minimum-wage bill and the full-employment bill as passed by the Senate.

6. We are working for a democratization of the army and a complete renovation of the army system of military justice, including the removal of the review of sentences already meted out by the military.

7. We support programs to feed the starving abroad as a humanitarian responsibility and as a practical program of international good will.

8. We support a program of training in democracy in our schools and in the army. 2-4-46

The address of the League is Room 675, 45 Astor Place, New York 3, N. Y.

LEO JOHNSON, SECRETARY,
VETERANS' LEAGUE OF AMERICA

New York City

Veterans Charter Is Granted At Charleston

Daily Courier

CHARLESTON, S. C. — The V. N. Brooks, president; Frederick the Veterans Civic Organization recently Wheeler, vice president; Larkin Ganizing other formed by veterans of World War Garrison, secretary; Robert Smith Ex-servicemen Two, has been awarded a charter treasurer; Harry Lum, financial cities wishing by the State of South Carolina, secretary; Clarence McCray, as- quested to write it was announced Monday. sistant financial secretary and headquarters at The VCC now in the most Thomas La Saine, business manager Charleston, S. C. of a membership campaign, sets Albert N. Hunt has been named

1-4-46

VCO announced plans for organizing other units in the state residing in other affiliation are requested to write or contact VCC at 67 Ashe Street

Council Of Negro Veterans

Seeks Congressional Charter

Memphis World, Tenn.

The National Council of Negro Veterans Inc., is making every effort to have a bill providing for its incorporation by the Congress of the United States enacted into law during this session. Testimonials from leading citizens and public officials as to the work the organization is doing in nine states in which it operates are being assembled for use in a brief being prepared to present to members of Congress in support of their claim. Photostatic copies of court records where Negro veterans have attempted, through court action, to force the American Legion to grant them permission and charters to form local posts will also be a part of the brief. Negro veterans, like other groups, are proud of the contributions they have made to their country in times of war and are conscious of the fact that these services are too minimized and in many cases omitted from historic records. 1-16-46

When asked why a Congressional Charter was desired, Benjamin H. Muldrew, national commander of the organization, explained that it is the only way to domesticate the organization in states where Negro veterans are discouraged, and in come instances, intimidated in their attempt to organize. He pointed out that in many southern states where Negroes ae denied membership in the Legion, D. A. V.'s, and other national veterans organizations they are not permitted by law to form their own organizations that denied them membership. As example, he cites article 1304A, Revised Civil Statues of the state of Texas:

"Article 1304A, Section 1: That the Secretary of State shall not issue any corporation, any charter using the name thereof of any of the following words either in the singular or in the plural: 'Legion,' 'Foreign,' 'Spanish,' 'Disabled,' 'War,' 'World War,' or any abbreviations of such word or words, of the same or similar meanings, without the written approval filed with the application for charter of some Congressionally recognized Veteran's organization, in whose name any such quoted word appears, then it shall be necessary to secure the written permission of either the State Commander of the American Legion or Disabled American Veteran of the World War, Veterans of Foreign Wars or Veterans of the Spanish American War."

1-16-46

He also pointed out that there is no Congressionally chartered Veterans organization that accepts Negro Veterans as members all over the United States on the same basis as it accepts other groups. Being organized in 1940, the council is fifth year of existence. It is now in the midst of its annual membership drive which closes April 1. From all indications, Commander Muldrew predicts, that the membership drive will be well over the 50,000 mark by that date.

Tenn.

Other officers of the organization are: Paul Stewart, Little Rock, Arkansas, Vice Commander; Mack C. Spears, Treasurer; O. S. Bond, Secretary; W. E. Davis, Chaplain; I. F. Bradley, Counsellor.

There is a National Post-War Planning Committee composed of Vice Comdr. V. C. Coffey, Kansas City, Kansas; J. R. Booker, Little Rock, Arkansas, Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago, Illinois; Dr. Milton C Lewis, Kansas City, Mo.; and Molton H. Gray, Birmingham, Alabama. Veterans interested in becoming members and persons willing to serve as organizers in any state are requested to address their communications to 2325 Park Avenue Kansas City 1, Mo.

Negro VFW Spends $1,000 On Charity

Birmingham, Ala. Age Herald

Julius Ellsberry Post No. 4348, Veterans of Foreign Wars, composed of Negro veterans who served overseas in World Wars I and II, expended $1,000 for charitable purposes during six months in 1945, ending in December, C. L. Coleman, commander, announced.

Comdr. Coleman stated that the post has three paid helpers to carry on the work and that expected expansion will require two additional workers.

Declaring that the post wished to follow in Christ's footsteps, the commander said, "We find there is much suffering among veterans' families, and we are going to eliminate it." 2-17-46

Describing the plan for future help to veterans, Comdr. Coleman said the post had in operation a welfare department for veterans' children, with a paid social worker, who will visit each member's home where there are children.

The post also will aid children in school, the commander declared "Doctor's care, medicine, shoes clothes and school books will be supplied free in all cases recommended by the social worker as deserving," he added.

Georgia Vets Open Office

Courier Gillsburg, Ga.

ATLANTA—(ANP) — The Georgia Veterans League, Inc., has opened temporary offices in the Hunter Street USO building to aid returning veterans in adjusting themselves to community life, John B. Turner, commander of the Fulton County Chapter of the league, announced last week. 2-16-46

The services of Mrs. Lena Sayles, formerly counselor at the Fulton-DeKalb Veterans Service Center, has been secured to help man the office. Part-time work is being done by Charles Milton, State commander, who studied veterans' aid work at Washington, and James Williams, civilian counselor of the Fort McPherson Separation Center.

D. R. Turner Directs Vets Bureau

Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va. 2-22-46

HAMPTON, Va.—Douglas Ryan Turner of Chicago and Atlantic City has been appointed interim director of the Veterans' Bureau at Hampton Institute, temporarily replacing George C. Cooper.

President Ralph P. Bridgman said that Cooper, who was made director of the bureau last fall, will leave Hampton on Feb. 1 to pursue studies toward a degree in personnel administration at Teachers College, Columbia University. He will return to his post at Hampton in September.

D. R. TURNER

Previously a chief petty officer and supervisor of the yeoman school in the U. S. naval training unit at Hampton, Mr. Turner was recently released from an assignment as acting educational officer at the Naval Air Station in Atlantic City, N. J. 2-2-46

NATIVE OF CHICAGO

A native of Chicago and the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Turner, the new acting director is a graduate of the University of Illinois, where he received the bachelor of science degree in 1931 and the master of science degree in 1934. He has also pursued graduate vocational and educational studies at Virginia State College.

He is married to the former Miss Enid Lucas of Atlantic City, and is the father of two children.

Survey Shows Vet Aid Centers Differ Greatly

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Segregation Rife in Some Northern Cities; Houston Center Viewed as Model for South

3-16-46

CHICAGO (ANP)—An investigations of veterans' information centers in key cities of the United States reveals startling differences in service and administration, Vincent Malveaux, conductor of a survey for the American Council on Race relations, reported last week.

Malveuax, former staff sergeant with the army in the European theatre of operations, visited New-York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Birmingham, Houston, St. Paul and Minneapolis, on his tour of inquiry.

In New York City, he found the "ideal one-stop" center.

There advice concerning education is given by two workers lent by the board of education.

Counsellors on job opportunities have a report form to be filled out by the veteran. The report asks questions, such as: "Did you get the information or help you wanted? If not, why nots?"

Philadelphia Segregates

In Philadelphia, Malveaux found all colored veterans being directed to one counsellor described as a social worker. White veterans here were directed to white, specialists but the colored counseller was expected to handle all types of problems.

Investigation of the Veterans' Information center in Chicago revealed no discrimination in the matter of interviews Maleaux found. No colored counsellor has been appointed, but the director stated the issue had not been raised. Sat 3-16-46

Birmingham has no central community center for either white or colored veterans. The chamber fo commerce stated it had plans to start a job placement program for colored veterans, but colored leaders declared they had not been invited to participate.

In Minneapolis and St. Paul, the USES office is offering colored veterans jobs as porters or window washers. In the Veterans' Information centers in both cities, 19 counsellors and clerks are employed, none colored.

The Houston Veterans' Center is one that might be used as a model for other Southern cities, according to Malveaux. All veterans wait in the same line, and sit together while waiting for an interview.

The Veterans' League

The Nation 3-9-46

Dear Sirs: In a review of "The New Veteran" by Charles Bolté which appeared in *The Nation* (January 19), Walter Bernstein referred to the American Veterans' Committee as the only anti-Jim Crow veterans' organization in existence. Unfortunately, Mr. Bernstein overlooked the Veterans' League of America. . . . The league starts from the premise that the welfare of the veteran is inseparable from the welfare of the entire country—Negro and white, Jew and Gentile. In line with this principle, the Veterans' League of America has already committed itself on a number of vital issues. To name some of the important ones:

We have indorsed labor's efforts to gain a substantial wage increase and we are cooperating with labor wherever possible.

We are working for the continuation of rent and price controls to prevent the pauperization of the veteran and the country.

We are cooperating with the Committee for a Permanent FEPC to gain the passage of this vital measure.

We are opposed to compulsory military training.

We support the 65-cent minimum-wage bill and the full-employment bill as passed by the Senate.

We are working for a democratization of the army and a complete renovation of the army system of military justice, including taking the review of sentences already handed down out of the hands of the military and placing it under the jurisdiction of a civilian committee. 3-7-46

We support a program to feed the starving abroad as a humanitarian responsibility and as a practical program of international good-will.

We support a program of training in democracy in our schools and in the armed forces.

The league has its headquarters at 45 Astor Place, New York, 3.

ANTON LEVY,
Chairman, Anti-Discrimination Committee, V. L. A.
New York, February 8

Brooklyn YMCA Gets Negro Vice Chairman

NEW YORK—Oliver D. Williams, 340 Halsey st., Brooklyn, open two interracial summer camps has voted to accept all former week elected vice presi- membership of the four- members of the armed forces, re- dent of the Brooklyn and Queensteen YMCA gardless of color, Seymour Bird, YMCA officials announced. directors of the board of boroughs. Local Am- Williams is a lawyer, and chair- Vets Lift man of the Carlton Avenue Branch To Ban of the Brooklyn and Queens Color Bars The Louisville chapter of the YMCA. 3-9-46 The spondents to join, he said. board recently voted to American Legion Committee

Veterans of World War II Organize In Charleston, S. C.

The Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

CHARLESTON, S. C. — World War II Veterans of this city have organized and have secured a charter from the state of South Carolina to operate as a corporation known as the Veterans Civic Organization. 1-12-46

Requirements for admission are that one must have served honorably in the armed forces of the United States during World War II and must agree to abide by the constitution of the organization.

The purpose of the organization is to protect the rights and privileges of veterans and to work fowards the betterment of the community. 1-12-46

The organization is now in the midst of its membership campaign and reports emanating from the membership committee indicate that Charleston veterans are supporting this organization 100 percent. It is the hope of the organization to expand so as to include chapters in practically every community in the state.

Albert Brooks, president of the organization stated this week that one would be surprised at the number of veterans who do not have a knowledge of their rights and privileges under the G. I. Bill of Rights and how to initiate action in securing them. 1-12-46

Officers elected to serve during the coming year are as follows: Albert Brooks, president; Frederick Wheeler, vice-president; Larkin Garrison, recording secretary; Robert Smith, treasurer; Harry Lum, financial secretary; Thomas Lesesne business manager; Williams Brown, chaplain; and Clarence McCray, assistant financial secretary. Also included in the organization is a veterans advisory committee, a program committee, and a membership committee.

Veterans' Group Seeks Members

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—The Allied Warriors of Liberty, a newly formed organization of Veterans of World War II, is seeking to extend its organization to include a network of chapters scattered throughout the country and 25,000 members by June 1, 1946.

The headquarters of the organization are located here at 112 Hamilton St. 1-5-46

Aim of Organization

At a recent meeting, Sanford E. Roan, president, stated that the guiding aim of the body is "to organize and develop facilities and services to assist the returning veteran with his many problems of readjustment."

Lt. Arthur Williams of Brooklyn discussed the problem of securing loans, which is being faced by many veterans. 1-5-46

The organizational committee includes:

Pvt. S. E. Roan of Ohio State University, president; Chester J. Gray, secretary; Lt. C. W. Pope Jr., publicity director; Capt. V. A. Harrison, director of women's activities; Pvt. C. R. Webb, director of membership; Pvt. C. W. Willis, treasurer; Pvt. E. A. Williamson, director of buildings and facilities.

Alabama Negro Vets Conference Scores New Army Bias Policy

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Special to the Daily Worker

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 13.—A Negro veterans conference here has voted to reject the Gillem War Dept. Report as preserving Army Jimcrow. The conference, organized under the leadership of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, brought 145 veterans from 26 cities and towns to form the first Negro vets organization of World War II in Alabama.

The resolution opposing the Gillem report was based on two grounds: Thrus

1—That maintenance of the hateful and undemocratic Jimcrow policy constituted "a gratuitous insult to the democratic aspirations of freedom that characterize the thinking and acting of the Negro people."

2—That the Gillem report "places the Negro people in a position of lending support to" an American imperialist policy of denying the purposes of the United Nations Charter." 3-14-46

Hitherto, the Gillem Report was widely hailed as a "death blow to Army Jimcrow" and a "new" Army policy towards Negro troops.

One of the conference highlights was the speech of Malcolm D. Dobbs, white, winner of the French Croix de Guerre and Distinguished Service Badge. Dobbs, who is Alabama State Secretary of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, declared: **"I learned that Negro and white unity could lick fascism on the battlefield and I know that we must continue that unity to lick fascism at home."** 3-14-46

The conference voted to send 20 delegates to the national conference of Negro veterans to be held in Chicago April 6 and 7.

to the problem of racial discrimination, which is one of the two or three most important problems facing us in America."

Wed 3-27-46

Five hundred Negro and white delegates are expected at the Chicago conference to form a national veterans organization.

Bert Alves, chairman of the provisional committee, declared the South would be represented by 150 Negro and white delegates.

Among those scheduled to speak at the forthcoming Chicago meet are Joe Louis, who is honorary chairman of the sponsoring organization; Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Congressmen Adam Clayton Powell, William Dawson and Ferdinand Smith.

sion keeping them out of other veterans organizations. But he emphasized that the special demands of Negro vets could only be met through such an organization.

Negro vets, he pointed out, seek full benefits of the GI Bill of Rights, decent jobs, housing, and especially a bonus needed to give all vets a real start. They went down the line in support of the GI's in Manila who are protesting the slow demobilization procedure.

The organization, known as the Veterans Organizing Committee, include among its major objectives: ridding USES of Jimcrow policies; permanent FEPC law, passage of the anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bills; breaking down discriminatory barriers in Veterans Hospitals; jimcrow practices of against blue and yellow discharges; equal representation at all levels in the Veterans Administration.

Scoring the jimcrow practices of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other vets

Negro Vets Lay Plans Here for National Body

Negro veterans of New York, meeting last night at the YWCA at 137 St., laid plans to form a national organization. The meeting was called at the initiative of six Negro vets. It set as its first objective the formation of a provisional New York veterans committee, which in turn would contact other veterans on a nationwide basis. 1-12-46

The vets at last night's meeting decided to act because the American Legion, with its jimcrow posts, as well as the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other present vet groups are doing nothing about the problems facing the Negro veterans, especially those in the South.

The meeting went down to rock bottom on the issues that veterans face in general, such as jobs, housing, wage increases, as well as the real start needed by all veterans in the form of a bonus.

Speakers sounded their convictions that such an organization would be open to all, regardless of race, creed or color, and especially that this organization would seek to work with the labor movement, and the peoples organizations that were the backbone of our country's victories abroad.

The six veterans responsible for the organization of the meeting were Burt E. Jackson, who served with the 332d Fighter Group in Italy; Sy Oliver, of the Special Services Music Division, and arranger for Tommy Dorsey; James Watson, of the 92d Division in Italy; Gilbert Sherman, of the 8th Infantry Division (mixed units) in France and Germany; William Taylor, Ordnance Corps, and Thomas R. Jones, Ordnance Corps.

A fuller report of the meeting will appear in tomorrow's Daily Worker.

Atlanta Vets' 'March' Demands Negro Cops

Chicago Defender 3-16-46

ATLANTA, Ga.—More than 300 members of the United Negro Veterans organization and the women's auxiliary marched on the City Hall last week in a protest against the non-appointment of Negro police.

Led by Dr. E. G. Boddie, organizer and promoter of the group, the parade was conducted orderly and gathered momentum as it went, despite a non-endorsement of the Atlanta NAACP and other organizations, which are seeking police through petition and conference.

Boddie's banner read "For Negro Police." Other banners read: "105,000 Negro Citizens Rate At Least One Negro Policeman."

The marchers paraded around the block in which City Hall is located two times, then held a mass demonstration on the steps in front of City Hall. The crowd that witnessed the demonstration was made up of curiosity seekers, policemen, newsmen and photographers. Responsible Negro citizens did not condone the demonstration, which they characterized as "ill-advised and inopportune."

Wallace Hails Negro Vet Organization Campaign

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Henry A. Wallace yesterday gave his support to the move of Negro veterans to organize a vets' organization. The Secretary of Commerce stated in a message to the Provisional Committee for a National Veterans Organization, which has scheduled a national conference in Chicago on April 6-7:

"I sympathize deeply with the problem of all groups who suffer discrimination and brutal forms of persecution in this country where such forms of inequality are so out of harmony with the principles on which our democracy is based.

"I sincerely hope that the national veterans organization succeeds in finding a partial solution

Negro G's Join FEPC Fight; Open Drive for Nat'l Vet Group

More than 300 Negro veterans, meeting at the 135 St. YWCA Tuesday night elected 11 delegates to go to Washington on the Peoples-Save-the FEPC delegation Jan. 17.

They formed a Veterans Organizing Committee to contact nationwide Negro vet groups, with the aim of establishing a national Negro veterans organization.

Thomas R. Jones, who served with the Ordnance Corps, pointed out that New York vets have to fight for which we fought overseas and for which our buddies died," he said.

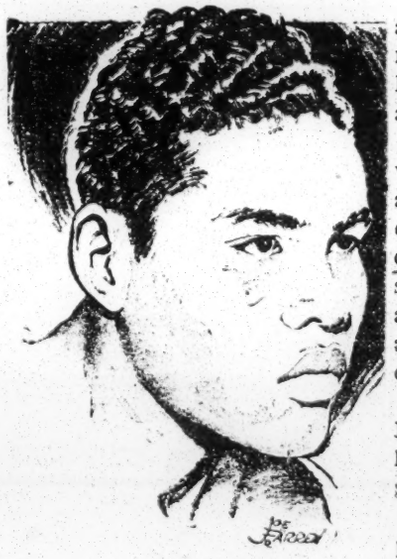
"We will have with the Negro people in the South. "We will peace for which our bills; breaking down discriminatory barriers in Veterans Hospitals; effort to organize Negro vets on a nationwide scale did not envi-

the kinship that
to gain the

Joe Louis Named Chairman of Nat'l Vets Organization

It's easy to understand why Joe Louis has such a grip on the affections of common folk everywhere. For in the quiet and keen personality of King Joe, the people see not only the stuff of which fistic title-holders are made—but also champions of the Democratic cause.

Since his discharge from the Army, the great Negro battler has time and again raised his voice strongly in behalf of the progressive camp. First he endorsed the reelection campaign of Communist Councilman Benjamin J. Davis; then he addressed the CIO Veterans Conference in Michigan; three weeks ago he called organized labor the most vital force in the fight against Jimcrow.



JOE LOUIS

And yesterday, in the midst of preliminary training for his important return-bout with Billy Conn, citizen Joe Louis accepted the honorary chairmanship of the Provisional Committee for a National Veterans Organization. The heavyweight champ simultaneously accepted the honorary chairmanship of the Chicago NVO's arrangements committee.

Also on the NVO's Provisional Committee is Ray "Sugar" Robinson, the uncrowned welter-king who is considered the finest fighter pound-for-pound in action today.

Louis has announced his intentions of speaking at the forthcoming National Veterans Committee conference to be held in Chicago April 6-7—declaring he had several thoughts concerning veterans' work and the role of Negro vets, in particular.

* * *

The NVO parley is to deal primarily with the problems of Negro veterans—and will attempt to establish a national interracial organization to cope with the increased terror-campaign being directed against Negro veterans and the Negro people.

With the addition of Joe Louis and Ray Robinson, the NVO committee roster includes: Walter Bernstein, former Yank staff writer; Ben Kuroki, noted Japanese American war hero; Len Zinberg, author of popular boxing novel "Walk Hard, Talk Loud"; Capt. Hugh Mulzac, famed Negro skipper in the Merchant Marine; Sy Oliver, prominent musical arranger; Herb March, Chicago District Director of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers, and Mercer Ellington, composer-conductor son of the famous "Duke," and many other widely-known war vets.

Vets Form Outfit To Fight for Negroes' Rights

By CLAUDIA JONES

CHICAGO, April 8.—Negro and white ex-servicemen from more than 20 states today formed a national organization known as the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

The new movement resulted from a week-end conference in which more than 300 delegates discussed lynch terror, peace, security, jobs and equality.

Some of the longest debates revolved around the conference name and leadership. Involved was the desire of these vets to have an organization which would primarily serve the needs of Negro vets and at the same time reflect their alliance with white veterans, veterans of minority groups and labor.

From his training camp in West Baden Springs, Ind., Joe Louis, honorary chairman of the new organization, wired the veterans:

"Is America going to fulfil its promises to us? We say America MUST! That is why we are organizing. This organization must make America fulfil her promises. And we can make her do it. Be assured that you can continue to count on me, and I will take an active part as often as conditions permit. I am with you in spirit and will be with you in deeds."

ENDORSE LABOR?

Delegate Virgil Chattle, of Oklahoma, wished to know whether the convention "should unqualifiedly endorse labor." Obviously referring to labor's recent wage strikes, he held that by its methods labor had disqualified itself for uncritical support by Negro veterans.

The delegates, particularly from the South, rose to challenge him.

Richard Jones, Southern field organizer of the Pittsburgh Courier, stated to the deafening applause of the vets: **"In my relationship over the entire Southern area, organized labor is definitely a friend of the Negro."** Calling attention to the need for Negro veterans helping labor break down remaining barriers, he said, **"We cannot expect other than unqualified endorsement to organized labor by Negro people, and especially Negro veterans."**

Josh Lawrence, NMU spokesman and chairman of the labor panel summarized the feelings of the delegates when he said: **"While some people may object to unqualified endorsement, a lot depends on where we stand. The GIs know what labor meant to them when 90,000 merchant seamen struck against the policy of keeping our boys in China, instead of bringing them home."**

The newly-formed organization went on record in support of the forthcoming organizing drive of CIO and AFL in the South.

Kenneth C. Kennedy, combat veteran with 15 months service in the ETO, and president of the newly-formed Alabama veterans organization was unanimously elected National Commander of the new organization. George B. Murphy Jr., well-known journalist, former non-com, and present veterans editor of **Peoples Voice,** was elected National Adjutant. National Finance Officer is Capt. Lester Davis, National Chaplain is Rev. Charles T. Watkins, former Army Chaplain and prominent Chicago Minister, and National Advocate, Ulyssus S. Keys, prominent Chicago attorney.

Seven vice commanders of the organization include Capt. Ruth Freeman, one of the outstanding Negro women officers of World War II, Tom Neal, of United Electrical and Radio Workers of America, Lt. Catherine Godfrey of Alabama, Howard "Stretch" Johnson, combat veteran of the 92nd Division, Coleman Young, Michigan pilot veteran, Reuben Lewis of Ohio, John Staggers of Ohio, one of the first to participate in the mixed combat unity in the ETO. A leadership council of 62 members will be based on state representation and affiliates.

Joe Louis Named Chairman of Chicago Interracial Vets' Committee

The announcement of Louis' appointment to the honorary national chairmanship was made by Bertram Alves, chairman of the Provisional Committee.

The Chicago wing, under the temporary chairmanship of Edward Ateman, will be host to the NVO national convention to be held at Du Sable High School here April 6 (Army Day) and 7.

With the addition of ex-Staff Sergeant Louis, the NVO roster boasts some of the nation's most prominent World War II veterans.

On the Provisional Committee are Walter Bernstein, editor of Yank Magazine; Ray "Sugar" Robinson, leading welter-weight boxer; Ben Kuroki, noted Japanese-American war hero; Sy Oliver, outstanding musical arranger with Tommy Dorsey's orchestra; Capt. Hugh Mulzac, first Negro captain in the merchant marine; Herbert March, Chicago District Director, CIO United Packinghouse Workers; Len Zinberg, Yank Magazine correspondent and author of the famous best seller, "Walk Hard, Talk Loud"; Mercer Ellington, composer-conductor son of Duke Ellington, famous orchestra leader, and a number of other of the country's great who served in the armed forces.

Veterans Look Ahead

One of the encouraging signs of the post-war period, particularly in the South, is the formation by World War II vet-erans of groups for the promotion of their common interests. Unlike the groups created for veterans, these organiza-tions in which the veterans themselves are the motivating force not only seem to be more sincerely representative but appear to recognize the fundamental principle that there are some issues on which all veterans should stand united, regardless of color or creed.

In New York, Washington and Chicago—to name a few major cities—these veterans' groups include members of all races and they point proudly to the fact that they are not jim crow in character. In others, membership, while not limited to any racial group, does not presently include any whites.

These groups are springing up here and there because, as the AFRO's Michael Carter pointed out in a survey late last year, the old, established national veterans' groups either discourage or deny membership to all except white Gentiles, or, if admitting others, have a strong anti-racial bias.

One of the newer mixed veterans' organizations, while welcoming to membership representatives of all racial groups and even electing some to office, has a closed-mouth policy regarding certain basic issues affecting the economic

62c 1946 Veterans

'Veterans and Wives' Re-Enlist In the Fight Against Reaction

The Worker New York, N.Y. Sun 5-19-46

"Veterans and Wives" National Steering Committee, elected at founding convention, Nov. 24, 1945. Naomi Nash and Larry Johnson are National Co-Chairmen (third and fourth from left, front row.)

The Worker

THE most frequent question asked of the dynamic, patriotic members of the W.I.V.E.S. throughout the war years was, "What are your husbands going to think about all this when they get home?" "All this" meant tireless bond stumping, entertaining and feeding hundreds of servicemen, marches on Washington, standing up to Congressman Rankin on the soldier vote, speaking for FEPC at Albany, leading a bus caravan to the capitol on demobilization, fighting for maintenance of the OPA. It also meant keeping up their husbands' morale through a newspaper, **Mrs. Yank**, and a magazine, **A Word to the W.I.V.E.S.**, keeping up their own morale through friendship and understanding, child care discussions, housing, employment, and sitter services, hobby groups, and health and legal aid committees. 5-19-46

There were only nine at the first meeting of the W.I.V.E.S. It wasn't exactly a national organization then. Eight came from Brooklyn and one came from Manhattan. That began it, and the program grew and expanded as they came to understand the dire necessity of their being. Two years later, they were playing host to four thousand members and friends. N.Y. N.Y.

When their husbands went off to fight, these wives of America had two choices: they could join one of the armed forces and fight beside their men as Waves or Wacs or Spars; or they could remain behind as part of the home front's fighting force, a task force which had the assignment of contributing the material, the morale and the weapons to their victory, and the added responsibility of adequately preparing for their homecoming.

Together with the women of nine communities in the United States, they built a home front organization with the pledge: "Wives Insure Victory, Equality, Security."

And what did their husbands think about all this new-found articulateness and civic drive when they got home? The answer is **Veterans and Wives**, a unique veteran-family organization that is uniting the fighters of the home and battlefronts into a cogent effort to insure "peace in our children's time." Unlike other veterans' groups, women have equal voting status and assume mutual responsibility with their men for organization life and community activity. 5-19-46

How about the single buddies of these married men? They're eligible for membership, despite race, creed, color or national origin, too. There are no distinctions as to rank . . . no Jimcrow chapters . . . and unmarried servicemen and veterans enjoy being part of a coeducational environment after the unnaturalness of Army life. 5-19-46

Veterans and Wives chapters have organized community rallies on OPA and inadequate housing. They have battled May Quinn, the un-American New York school teacher. They've fought side by side with Anti-Franco groups. In fact, they've taken the most courageous and progressive position on every major issue now facing the world of any of the vet organizations. Sunday

They've just collected 10,000 signatures in support of Federal Housing as outlined in the Wagner-Ellender Bill and they're taking them straight to the White House when they go to Washington with the Win-the-Peace delegation. They're organizing their own cooperatives. And this is only the beginning.

Veterans and Wives is an inspiring way of translating into the peace effort the wholehearted energy and support which went into waging an all-out war against fascism on the battlefields and at home. Chapters in Minnesota, Illinois, New Jersey, Washington, D. C., and New York are the vanguard for a national membership movement that has the youth, the unity and the enthusiasm characteristic of combat teams at the front. Men and women are standing side by side with a strong voice for justice and democracy. And they're not afraid to use it.

In ancient Greece, the women of Lysistrata's day refused to have children so long as their men continued to make war. The woman of today cannot consider herself blameless for the wars, and she must be willing to assume full responsibility along with the men for what happens to the world now. The W.I.V.E.S. are prepared to assume responsibility for the maintenance of the peace. "We had war in our parents' time . . . We had war in our time. . . . We want peace in our children's time" This is a living pledge made by the W. I. V. E. S. that is being translated into action every day. For this they organized originally. And for this they are continuing as **VETERANS AND WIVES**

Negro Elected Vice Chairman Secretary Of New AVC Chapter Sat. 11-16-46

Chapter 22 of the American Veterans' Committee is making rapid strides in its organization campaign. The recently formed chapter is made up entirely of World War II veterans and has a Negro secretary, John Poindexter. Other officers are Frank Madison, chairman; Robert Adkins, vice chairman; Leonard Leath, corresponding secretary, and William Tucker, treasurer.

Chapter 22 has unanimously gone on record in favor of the passage of both national and state FEPC laws. It was impressed on the members at the last meeting that New York State passed an FEPC law more than a year ago.

According to chapter officials, AVC's aim, condensed to a single sentence is "A more democratic and prosperous America in a more stable world."

On Saturday, Nov. 16, the chapter will sponsor a pre-Thanksgiving dance at Civic Center ballroom with music by Bill Mitchell and his orchestra. All veterans are invited to help Chapter 22 celebrate.

For a Place in the Sun

New York, N.Y. Daily Worker

Negro Vets' Leader Maps Grim Fight for Just Fruits of Peace

By John Hudson Jones

"As Commander of the United Negro and Allies Veterans of America, having felt the lash of Jimcrow and physical abuse on my own body, I tell you now that the Negro soldiers are dedicated to the extermination of the enemies of democracy."

This forthright statement came from Kenneth Kennedy at a press conference yesterday in the offices of UNAVA, at 315 Lenox Avenue.

Kennedy, a dynamic young man of 21, spent two and a half years in the Army, fifteen months of which was as a corporal in the 82nd Airbourne Division in the ETO.

A native of Birmingham, he attended Talledega College and was active in the early struggles led by the Southern Negro Youth Congress. N.Y. N.Y.

Questioned as to UNAVA's attitude on labor and other veterans' groups he said, **"UNAVA does not will not set itself apart from labor or other veterans, but seeks friends and assistance in its special struggle, the struggle of the Negro veteran for life, a just share of the fruits of the peace, and a place in the sun."** 5-22-46

Pointing out that the Negro veteran had been selected by American fascists to be lynched, beaten, and murdered in cold blood, and that this was the beginning of a campaign to destroy American democracy, and to launch an anti-Soviet war, he concluded that **"the fight for the rights of Negro veterans is a fight for the very life of our country."**

More than 920,000 American Negroes took part in World War

KENNEDY

II, serving in every branch of the armed forces. Commenting on this fact, Kennedy said that **"The Negro veteran of World War II is a mighty changed man. He knows what his people did to insure the victory over fascism abroad, and as a result is out to crush fascism in its many American forms here at home.**

At present he is on a nationwide organizing tour, that has already taken him to several southern states. State organizations of UNAVA have already been set up in Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Louisiana.

Attention was called to the coming New York State Veterans' Conference to organize a UNAVA chapter. It was emphasized that already two Negro servicemen had been brutally murdered in Freeport, L. I., and that this alone should spur New York's veterans and the citizens of the state to vigorous support of the organization.

Local Negro Woman Heads Auxiliary

At a meeting of Colored World War Veterans and its Auxiliary in Orlando on Aug. 5, Alleen C. Bradley, well known Fernandina Negro woman, was named to the presidency of the Auxiliary. She served as departmental president the past year.

Members of both races congratulate Alleen upon receiving this signal honor. She is the wife of Rev. G. C. Bradley, Florida.

Three Named Trustees At H.M.P. Post

The Nightingale Herald
Columbus, Ga.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala. — Cleve L. Abbott, Lonnie W. Martin and R. S. Darnaby were named Trustees of the Harris Moseley Tresvillee Post Veterans of Foreign wars of the United States at the regular monthly meeting of the Post, which was held at the Silver Trovel Lodge Hall here Thursday night. Jues. 8-25-46

Other officers named by E. H. Cravons, Commander, were G. G. Washington, Post Advocate; Theodore Stafford, Sergeant-Major; John W. Lockett, Legislative Officer; the Rev. H. J. C. Bowden, Patriotic Instructor; Dr. J. A. Kennedy, Surgeon; Thomas L. Mason, Quarter Master-Sergeant; Bishop B. Nicks and William T. Townsend, Color Bearers.

Roy D. Wynn was announced as chairman of the committee to arrange for the First Annual Fall Frolic of the Post which will be held at the Propeller Club on Labor Day, Monday night, September 2.

The Post will award a medal to the most valuable member of the veterans Hospital baseball team at the close of the regular playing season.

Negro Vets Installed

The local "M. H. J." Post of the National Council of Negro Vets, Inc., held its installation ceremonies last Wednesday night at St. Luke A. M. E. Church.

The installing of officers by Comrade Joseph T. Bickers of Atlanta, folowed a short business meeting under the guidance of Comrade Dan Wheeler, the local Commander.

During the business meeting the organization went on record as indorsing good citizenship, cultivating a spirit of comradship for all members of the armed forces, and maintaining unrestricted loyalty to the United States in time of war and peace.

The organization also plans to help Negro Vets process their applications for Terminal Leave Pay, which bill was recently signed by President Truman.

Any veteran desiring information about this benefit is requested to contact Comrade Dan Wheeler, who resides 101 Fite street, in Cartersville.

Respectfully submitted.
Rosamond Kay, Jr. Chaplain

VETS' VOICE

AVC Jimcrow Fight Weak

There were very few Negro delegates present at the Des Moines convention of the American Veterans Committee. AVC is out to get a million new members. The following letter from a Negro ex-Wac should be helpful to members of the organization who really want to reach that goal:

Jues 7-2-46 Chicago.

Dear Brother Clark;

Your column of June 20 was very useful in arriving at a well-rounded estimate of AVC perspective and program.

I agree that AVC is way out in front of the old, established veterans' organizations. However I do feel that the widespread overestimation of AVC makes it necessary for us not to stop there. Let us measure AVC not only in terms of the backwardness of the established organizations, but in terms of the demands of our present critical national situation. It is my impression that the progressive forces within AVC have a great need for a critical analysis of their problems and responsibilities.

The greatest single danger to AVC is the paralyzing effect of the social democratic influence, precisely because of its middle class base. Let me illustrate.

If you were at the convention, I ask you to remember the eloquent plea of a Negro delegate in connection with the requirements for membership in AVC. He asked that consideration be given to Negro vets wrongfully given dishonorable discharges. It is my opinion that the delegates would have given such consideration had it not been for the social democratic theme song, **"But we won't get a charter."** Jues 7-2-46

The immediate response to the refusal of the Rose Bowl Cafe to serve two Negroes was correct and well executed. But let's examine this action a little further. After the story made the front pages of every paper in Des Moines, one thousand dollars was spent to place ads in the leading white dailies stating that the Rose Bowl affair was an isolated incident, and thanking the citizens of Des Moines for their hospitality.

Arnold Johnson, a Negro delegate from New York, who knows better, appeared on the convention platform to give this idea the blessings of the Negro people whom he, at that very moment, was selling short in the hope of recognition for services rendered.

Discrimination in America is a pattern, not an isolated incident. No one bothered to ask the Negro people about the racial pattern of Des Moines.

To add insult to injury, the arrogant assumption was made that the Negro people need to be taught to fight discrimination. **"It will show other Negroes that it can be done."** The AVC slogan, **"Citizens, first, veterans, next,"** has no meaning at all for the Negro veteran, as illustrated by the Rose Bowl Cafe incident.

It is my thinking that we have a right to ask the question whether AVC spent one thousand dollars to prove how wonderful it is rather than to really advance the fight against discrimination. The organizations fighting discrimination the year 'round in Des Moines could have used that one thousand dollars to sue at least three cafeterias arrogantly notifying Negro patrons that their presence is undesirable.

It happens that the Negro people of Des Moines are going to utilize the Rose Bowl publicity as a jumping off point for a campaign against Katz Drugstore which refuses to serve them at the counter. The United Negro and Allied Veterans chapter in Des Moines will lead the fight. They are now seeking the cooperation of the AVC chapter. This is the testing ground of AVC's policy against discrimination.

Before closing, I'd like to quote the lawyer handling the Rose Bowl Cafe case, an AVC member, who says, **"If my transportation is delayed, I'll appear in court. But the hearing is not so important. Ninety percent of the goal is already accomplished by the arrest and preferring of charges. It will show other Negroes that it can be done."** See what I mean by publicity stunt? This is a clear cut example of the social democrats at work. Keep an X-ray eye on them even when they picket for Negro rights.

The progressive forces made a good showing at the convention. It indicates that there will be a real struggle for veterans' welfare from below, in spite of efforts to lead away from main issues on the part of the national leadership. Jues 7-2-46

I found, after a bit of scouting around, that the Negro delegates were full of doubts and confusion as to just what to expect from AVC in regard to their problems of unemployment and discrimination. The problems of women veterans are equally as vital as the question of auxiliaries. I did not hear them discussed at all.

Fraternally,
EDNA GRIFFIN.

Tenn. Veterans Hold First State Gathering

The Negro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JACKSON, Tenn. — "Organized and militant action to win the war on the home front," was the keynote of the first State-wide meeting of Tennessee veterans, headed by James F. Estes of Jackson, held here recently.

More than 200 veterans heard Hector Durell, State organizer of the Tennessee Veterans Association, Inc., deliver the keynote address. Veterans' clinic classes were conducted to provide the delegates with working information concerning the GI Bill of Rights' benefits. Sat. 9-14-46

O. E. McKaine, field worker of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, was also a speaker. The association, which has ten posts organized already throughout the State, is open to veterans of both groups for membership.

Amvets' Commander Urges Co-operation for World Peace

Richmond, Va.
Times-Dispatch

Co-operation and understanding among nations and within the United States are the prime needs of today in establishing security and peace for all men, Jack W. Hardy, of Los Angeles, national commander of the American Vetcrans of World War II, declared here last niht in an address before the first annual convention of the Virginia Department of the Amvets, meeting in a two-day session at Hotel Richmond.

"We are in the greatest fight of all times today," he declared, incalling for organized teamwork to help achieve world peace and maintain a truly representative form of decorative government in America. "We must fight to destroy meanness and smallness, pain and misery throughout the world," he added. Sunday

"It's not easy to accept the heartaches of postwar readjustment and dislocation; to endure the selfishness and greed of citizens no longer afraid of enemy bombs or of industry and labor with their 'dog eat dog' practices," said the former lawyer and Navy commander in World War II. "But," he added, "these things are inevitable by-products of human weaknesses. They seem more prevalent now, partly because increased greed and exploitation are boon companions of war."

The national commander challenged each to use his "faith and ideals, stamina and courage, understanding and action" to make the kind of future America of which each dreamed and hoped for. He urged the veterans to use the right of free speech to give constructive criticism of "our leaders and methods"; to guard against mortgaging "our future with ill-considered veterans' legislation designed primarily to aid politicians"; to exert effort for the construction of good roads, rural electrification; flood control and irrogation; motive power and communications, improved civic living, better schools. 8-11-46

"Plan for Tomorrow"

"The time to plan for a better tomorrow is now," Mr. Hardy declared. "It is not too soon to work together to insure that never again will America be forced to the shameful expediency of another WPA—to insure that never again will American veterans need become apple peddlers." Sunday

He lauded the effort made by the United Nations Organization to work for world security and peace, but added that "there has been too great a lack of genuine citizen interest in the UNO. Unless we can make UNO a success, we have little hope for achieving world peace or of averting another war."

Warning against the "feeling of America's supremacy that can lull us into a false security of isolationism," Mr. Hardy said that the United States can continue her greatness among the nations only if her leaders are chosen wisely and carefully.

Also speaking at the banquet session last night was J. Fulmer Bright, State director of OPA, who discussed the OPA and housing.

The meeting convened at noon yesterday with 50 delegates registered. H. A. Garrett, of Portsmouth, commander of New Gosport Post No. 1 of AMVETS, was appointed editor of the monthly publication of the organization, "The Virginia AMVETS," which will be launched in September and published in Portsmouth.

The delegates voted to leave the matter of inclusion of Negro veterans in local posts to the discretion of local organizations. The organization plan, as outlined in the national AMVET constitution, is to practice no discrimination against race or creed and local posts will organize separate units for Negroes or include them in membership with the whites. Currently there is only one Negro local post now being organized in Lynchburg with a membership of about 65 veterans.

Richard Burke, of Charlottesville, State commander, reported that there are 250 AMVETS in eight local posts in Virginia, while the nation's membership is 75,000 in 775 posts. 8-11-46

The two-day session will be concluded today when new officers will be elected and action will be taken on numerous resolutions.

Veterans' Group Told to File Papers With VA Before Jan. 1

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-12-46
WASHINGTON

Under a new ruling handed down by the Veterans Administration last week, veterans' organizations which have not yet gained official recognition by the VA have until Jan. 1, only two and a half months, to do so. After that time, recognition will be gained only through presentation of a Congressional charter.

The present procedure, which is much simpler, requires the complete filling out of accreditation forms which are available through the VA solicitor. At present, no colored organization is recognized by the VA and, although reports are that one group has been trying for a Congressional charter since World War I, no colored organization possesses one.

Recognition of veterans' organizations by the VA entitles each to the appointment of a service officer, who is given free space at the VA office, free stenographic service, full access to VA records and is permitted to appear before boards in the interest of veterans' problems, a privilege which would give more weight than all non-recognized groups.

62c 1946

Veterans

Will Tour Midwest To Rally Negro Vets

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 2-28-46

The Freeport slaying of the two Negro Ferguson brothers is a challenge by the nation's fascist elements that must be answered at once, declared Bertram Alves, chairman of the United Veterans for Equality.

Interviewed in his Harlem office, Alves said he was going on a Midwest tour to set up local chapters of UVE and make final plans for a national conference.

The present wave of terror against the Negro people, he said, "is being launched first against Negro vets because they are leading the militant fight for economic and political freedom."

Alves cited the demonstration of 100 Negro vets in Brimingham, Ala., who assembled before the court house demanding the right to register. 2-20-46

The next day an Alabama newspaper warned the Negro vets "to stay in their places" and threatened KKK action if they persisted.

In Freeport, L. I., said Alves, two of the Ferguson brothers were killed, a third wounded, and a fourth given a jail sentence **because they dared stand up for their rights as American citizens. This Hitler-like brutality will spread throughout the nation unless it is stopped in Freeport. The Negro people have been challenged; the UVE accepts this challenge. We will fight fascism here with the same fury we fought it all over the world."**

These are some of the reasons, Alves explained, that the UVE is calling a national conference in Chicago April 6 and 7. The conference will be a call to action to all veterans of all races and creeds to fight fascism and adopt a program for the special needs of Negro veterans.

South Negro Vets Seek Organization and Unity

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Thurs 4-2-46

By CLAUDIA JONES

"Southern Negro vets are organizing first of all among themselves, and they are ready and willing to have their white Southern brothers join them." That's what George Murphy, Jr., ex-sergeant and Public Relations Officer for the Provisional Committee for a National Veterans Organization told me on his return from a southwide tour.

The tour, made in preparation for the national Chicago meeting on April 6-7 took him to San Antonio, Galveston and Dallas, Tex., New Orleans, La.; Birmingham, Ala.; Columbia, S. C.; Richmond, Va.; Orangeburg and Nashville, Tennessee.

GEORGE B. MURPHY JR.

Of his experiences he said enthusiastically: **"A keen awareness permeates the Negro veterans' spirit. It is the knowledge that they are right that impels them not to take a back seat but to fight back. Practically everywhere I went, it was the Negro veteran who said 'yes they knew white veterans who would support their efforts and who would also be in Chicago."**

The desire for organization is also strong, said Murphy. In Aiken College, Columbia, S. C., student veterans had elected delegates to go to Chicago on the basis of newspaper reports. In Texas, Georgia and Alabama, where World War II [illegible] veterans have already formed statewide and local veterans' organizations, they are planning to go to Chicago "in convention style." Everywhere, he said, Negro vets express concern about the lynch violence directed against them.

"But they are participating in the protests to stop it," he said. An example of this is their participation in the El Campo, Texas case, where Pvt. L. C. Herman Negro veteran is charged with killing an elderly white woman. Here, Negro vets are part of the protest movement demanding that this mentally deficient veteran be reprieved with a "clemency charge."

Murphy likes to sit down and talk to the vets themselves. You get the feeling this Quartermaster Corps Sergeant, with three years army service and 6 months who worked in the Philippines in the Army's Information and Educational Program, does it well.

Take his meeting at Fiske University with some 200 Negro veterans. Murphy told how "two carloads of indicted Negro veterans came in from Columbia, Tenn."

"You looked at these guys, some still had on their GI jackets, and they seemed like ordinary average guys. But when I asked them how they felt towards these veterans at Fiske who raised funds for their defense and about the pretest meetings up North, they began to speak." Mes 4-2-46

A spokesman for the group told Murphy that "you can depend on our being in Chicago" and then added:

"A few people said we shouldn't have done what we did. What makes us feel good is that all you folks have said you know we were right."

No wonder Murphy says today:

"From what I have seen in the South today, I would say that the vets in the South have shown that they are on the march for democracy."

Veterans Set Up Nation-Wide Unit

CHICAGO (ANP).—The United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, a new nation-wide interracial organization, was born here Sunday during the second day of a national conference for a national veterans' organization at DuSable High School.

More than 400 delegates of both races from 22 States and the District of Columbia voted to make this city the national headquarters.

Seven regions will comprise the new national organization; namely, the Western, Southwestern, Central Western, Southeastern, Middle Eastern, North Atlantic and Middle Western regions.

Kennedy Made President

Regional headquarters will be located in Los Angeles, Houston, Tex.; St. Louis, Birmingham, Washington, New York City and Detroit.

Kenneth C. Kennedy of Alabama was selected national commander.

The seven national vice-commanders are:

Miss Ruth Freeman, Chicago; Tom Neil, New Jersey, white; Miss Catherine Godfrey, Alabama; Reuben Lewis, Ohio; Howard Johnson, New York City; Coleman Young, Michigan, and John Staggers, South Carolina.

Murphy Elected Adjutant

Other officers include George B. Murphy, Washington, national adjutant; Lester Davis, New York, national financial officer; the Rev. Charles T. Watkins, Chicago, national chaplain, and Ulysses S. Keyes, Chicago, national advocate.

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder of Palmer Memorial Institute of North Carolina, was the principal speaker.

Other speakers were Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, CIO; Herbert March, United Packing House Workers of America, CIO; Walter Bernstein, writer for Yank, and Ally Morrison, representing Stars and Stripes.

Chicago, Ill.

Jim Crow Policy Of Vets' Groups Ignored

Sat 3-23-46

WASHINGTON—A group of Negro and white veterans of World War II who want to organize a Franklin Delano Roosevelt Post under an American Legion charter are causing considerable confusion among Legion district officers here.

Richard Seigle, temporary chairman of the FDR group, stated that application for a Legion charter was filed with the District Department February 20 on behalf of 104 members. The group has since increased to 200, half of them Negroes, Seigle said.

Negro and white veterans here have traditionally been organized in separate Legion posts. Legion officials admitted that there are some mixed posts in the North, but that D. C. has followed the southern Jim Crow pattern. Sat 3-23-46

Will Consider Application

C. Francis McCarthy, chairman of the D. C. Legion charter committee said that his committee would consider the application in due time, after previously filed applications had been acted upon.

The FDR unit was started last November, according to Seigle, by a group of federal workers, but now includes non-government workers as well. Seigle is chairman of the CIO United Federal Workers veterans committee.

Colored Veterans To Form VFW Post

There will be a meeting tonight at 8 o'clock of all colored veterans who are interested in organizing a post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The meeting will be held at the home of James Hawthorne, 312 East Tinsley Street.

D.C. Gets Mixed Legion Post

Chicago Defender

Mich. Vets Fight Jimcrow At Convention Hall

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 9-11-46

Special to the Daily Worker

DETROIT, Sept. 3.—The American Veterans Committee here has taken on the Barlum Hotel, site of its state convention, in a fight against Jimcrowism. The Barlum Hotel had informed AVC it would not allow Negroes in its ballroom for the convention dance.

AVC has taken the matter to court and on September 5th Judge Chenot will rule on an injunction restraining the hotel from barring Negroes.

The Barlumb Hotel has long been known for its discriminatory policies but the AVC declares the hotel is going to end once and for all its policy of discrimination.

The AVC convention will be held Sept. 7 and 8th. Committees on

AVC VOTES TO ADMIT NEGROES

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—One of the most significant moves in the southland occurred last week when the local chapter of the American Veterans Committee voted to admit Negroes, to have one single, mixed chapter instead of following the usual pattern of segregation. Sat. 8-17-46

Negro AmVet Group Organizes Here

Negro veterans began organization-wide ment of a state veterans bank to policy. The statement said: 8-23-46

Veterans of World War II, Tuesday night.

Sixth men signed the charter, and temporary officers were elected. Philip Jefferson, was chosen as commander, Jack Brewer, vice commander, R. Harrison, adjutant; and Richard Morrison, financier.

Assisting in the formation of the post were A. O. Tate, and L. B. Mills of Warrington AmVet post No. 19.

Negro AmVets will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at 423 1-2 West Belmont street.

Negro Vets Hail Wallace Stand

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—

Secretary U. S. foreign policy," the statement said: 9-23-46

present foreign

by A. Wallace

a statement is-

nited Negro and

demanding this

has given new

tion of a chapter of the American

Negroes, Whites Form Vet Organization

People's Voice New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO—More than four hundred Negro and white veterans convened here this week to organize a national association which, while working for the relief of all veterans, will be primarily geared to serve the needs of the Negro ex-serviceman. As they assembled in DuSable High School, the entire audience stood in brief tribute to Pvt. L. C. Herman, of Elcampo, Tex., who was scheduled to be electrocuted on Army Day for allegedly assaulting a white woman.

Among the delegates were James Stephenson of Columbia, Tenn., whose defense of his mother precipitated the lynch terror there, and Richard Ferguson from Freeport, L. I., whose brothers were killed by white policemen. Sat 4-13-46

The new organization was named the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America and Chicago was selected as its headquarters. Several regional headquarters were chosen, to be in Los Angeles, Houston, St. Louis, Birmingham, Washington, D. C. New York, and Detroit.

Officers elected were Kenneth Kennedy of Alabama, national commander; PV's George B. Murphy, jr., of Washington and New York, adjutant; Lester Davis of New York, finance officer; Ulysses S. Keyes of Chicago, national advocate; and the Rev. Charles T. Watkins of Chicago, chaplain.

Bertram S. Alves, national organizer of the provisional committee, gave the keynote address. "We fought together to defeat the evils of fascism," he cried, "but at the same time we kept an active eye on the America we would return to some day."

"But we have returned," he continued, "to have our hopes dashed, our dreams shattered, our yearnings for equality and full freedom unsatisfied."

He emphasized the connection between attacks on labor and the Negro and scored Churchill and his supporters for advocation of an alliance of English-speaking people against Russia.

Greetings were received from Harold L. Ickes, Mary McLeod Bethune, Henry A. Wallace, F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee, A. W. Dent of Dillard University, Councilman Benjamin J. Davis of New York, Congressmen Hugh DeLacy and Vito Marcantonio and other leaders in various fields, as well as large labor unions.

The Red Cross furnished 400 cots and 800 blankets to be used by the veterans attending the conference.

National Commander Kenneth Kennedy and the Provisional Committee of the United Negro and Allied Veterans. Left to right in pix are committee members Bertram Alves, Ewart Guinier; Mr. Kennedy, 21-year-old student of Talladega College in Alabama who served with the 92nd Division in Italy; Lester Davis, national treasurer.

Negro Vets Organize to Fight For Fruits of Hard Won Victory

Daily Worker New York

By CLAUDIA JONES

The voice of the Negro veteran will be a powerful one when he gets organized. That's the kind of feeling you get when you talk to Lester Davis, treasurer of the Provisional Committee for National Veterans Organization. Fri 5-22-46

That's the outfit which recently announced that Joe Louis would serve as honorary chairman. Davis is a sample of the guys that Joe will work with.

Slight of build and intensive in manner, Capt. Davis spent five years in the Army. He put in a little over two years in the Pacific theater. He doesn't tell you anything about sweating it out in New Guinea. That's "in the rear" of his thinking now, for he has been working tooth and nail to guaranteeing that Negro vets of New York State are well represented in Chicago on April 6-7.

Davis feels that "the militant spirit of the Negro soldier has come awake and he doesn't intend to live as formerly."

Even in the Army, Lester Davis dreamed of establishing a coordinated veterans group to serve Negro veterans.

With a frank, easy smile, he added: "It looked as if many other vets had the same idea. When I came home, I found my buddies urging me to get together with them to see if we couldn't make our ideas come alive."

He rapidly recited how a little over two months ago, an initial meeting called on short notice found 300 Negro veterans of the Harlem community responding. Many white veterans, too. Fri. 3-22-46

"We set up an inter-racial committee which has since established contact nationally, and that's how the conference idea took hold," he said.

Davis' opinion is that such a Negro veterans organization "would be an expression of the desires of the Negro veteran which have thus far been suppressed."

He reported that Negro vets everywhere have taken courage from the activities of their Southern comrades in their fight for the right to vote and to maintain and secure their rights under the GI Bill. "It's the kind of fighting courage that will not let down the GI's who were murdered since the war's end."

Another veteran, attractive Miss Vivian Hunter, former second lieutenant in the Army Nursing Corps who served with the 104th Division, entered the offices at 124 W. 124 St. Miss Hunter is coordinating the work for the National Conference. She knows what it is to break Jimcrow barriers. **"Despite discouragement,"** she told me **"we broke through the original quota of 160 Negro nurses."**

When I asked her whether she intends to go back to nursing in Harlem Hospital, she simply answered that the United Veterans for Equality has her undivided attention now.

The aims of the United Veterans for Equality are the same as the aims of the Conference sponsors. They are:

1—To secure full equality, educational opportunities and democratic rights;

2—To combat and destroy fascism at home by battling against Jimcrow and discrimination;

3—To help promote world peace and liberation based on the principles of the United Nations;

4—To take their place shoulder to shoulder with all sections of the people who fight the battle for democracy. Tu. 3-22-46

That's why increasing numbers of Negro veterans are looking toward Chicago on April 6-7.

JOE LOUIS, honorary chairman of the new United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, wired the Chicago organization conference: "Is America going to fulfil its promises to us? We say America MUST! That is why we are organizing. This organization must make America fulfil her promises. And we can make her do it. Be assured that you can continue to count on me, and I will take an active part as often as conditions permit. I am with you in spirit and will be with you in deeds." Sat 4-13-46

Negro Veterans Meet Saturday

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Special problems of Negro voters will be discussed and a program of action planned at a week-end conference to found a New York State chapter of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, regional director Bert Alves announced yesterday. The meeting will open at Elks Hall, 15 W. 126 St., Saturday. Thurs.

Jackie Robinson, star second baseman of the Montreal Royals and first Negro signed by modern organized baseball, is honorary chairman. 6-6-46

Negro Post of VFW To Install Officers

Campaigner Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

First Negro Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will meet at 3:30 p. m. today at the Hunter St. USO. The post has been named for Charles W. Clemmons, Jr, the first Morehouse College student to lose his life in the war. 6-2-46

Officers to be installed at today's meeting are: John Shropshire, Commander; Isaac O'Neal, Senior Vice-Commander; David T. Mapp, Junior Vice-Commander; Johnie Jones, Quartermaster; Polk J. Powell, Adjutant; James D. Bohler, Chaplain; Henry Menefee, Memore Thurman and Oscar Berry, Trustees; and Norman H. Prince, Post Advocate. Times

NEGRO IS WELCOMED BY BLINDED VETERANS

Times, New York, N.Y. 6-6-46

Isaac Woodard Jr., Negro veteran of four years of service, who Lloyd Greenwood, former bomber declared in an affidavit filed with pilot, who was blinded by flak over the Department of Justice that he Vienna in May, 1944, acting direc- had lost his sight as a result of tor of the association, welcomed beating by the police of Aiken, Sherman Fulton and Wilfred Gibbs S. C., last Feb. 13, was admitted of Brooklyn, Vincent Trypuc, a stuyesterday to membership in the dent at Columbia University, and Blinded Veterans Association at Woodard was on his way home the organization's headquarters, from Camp Gordon, Ga., to Winns- 80 Warren Street. boro, S. C., has been filed by the engaged in re- search at a laboratory dealing in auditory devices for the blind. Several other of the 400 members of the organization were their new constitutional Association for the Advancement of Colored People an application for full compensation for the injuries received while on his way home from Camp Gordon, Ga., to Winnsboro, S. C., has been filed by the American Red Cross with the Veterans Administration. They included Mr. Lloyd Greenwood, former bomber pilot, who was blinded by flak over Vienna in May, 1944, acting director of the association, welcomed Sherman Fulton and Wilfred Gibbs of Brooklyn, Vincent Trypuc, a student at Columbia University, and Woodard was on his way home from Camp Gordon, Ga., to Winnsboro, S. C., has been filed by the American Red Cross with the Veterans Administration.